

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

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

Upon motion of Keith Grohe and second of Pervis Brown, the commission voted to excuse John Hamilton. The Vice President declared the motion passed.

City staff present: Jane Cullen, P.E. – Engineering Department, Jim Lang – Interim Police Chief, Paul Ricci – Fire Chief, Carrie Handy – Planner, Anna Enderle – Assistant Planner, 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 Wesley Poole, the commission voted to approve the minutes of the February 11 meeting and suspend the oral reading. The Vice President declared the motion passed.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (*agenda items only*)

Sharon Johnson, 1139 Fifth Street, asked for an explanation of what is taking place with House Bill 5 (Item #3) as this is the most stupidest thing she has ever heard of.

Ron Urig, 1338 Avondale, said before raising fees for park and shelter rentals, the city needs to look at cleanliness of the shelters. When tourists and citizens want to use shelters they sometimes are covered in goose poop and are in deplorable shape. They need to be inspected and swept daily and he is against raising these fees.

Diedre Cole **welcomed Lisa Faber and members of Boy Scout Troop #7 from St. Mary's Church** who are working to earn their communication merit badge.

PRESENTATIONS

Diedre Cole said members of the **Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Steering Committee** have tirelessly and diligently worked on this project in conjunction with the Sandusky City Schools. Carrie Whitaker, P.E., Erie County Regional Planning Commission, said the initial goal was to develop a SRTS Travel Plan. This is a federally funded program through the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) to encourage children (Grades K – 8) to bicycle and participate in active transportation to and from school on safer routes. Funding was granted by ODOT to complete the Travel Plan which has been approved. The plan assesses existing conditions for a five-mile radius around schools for walkers and up to a two-mile radius for bicycles. There is an action plan in the study that highlights recommended improvements as prepared by an outside consultant. The city is eligible to apply for infrastructure and non-infrastructure grants with each cycle. The Resolution on tonight's agenda is to apply for projects identified in the approved plan (up to \$500,000 for infrastructure improvements and up to \$100,000 for non-infrastructure improvements). The program does call for an 80% match and 20% will be picked up by ODOT which will mean zero cost for the city. Carrie Whitaker said a list of the recommended projects has been established by the steering committee, has been distributed, and thanked everyone who attended the recent public meeting. Jeff Smith said Perkins Township was awarded a SRTS grant last year and asked how it is going for them. Carrie Whitaker said Vermilion was the first community which applied and they have received three years worth of awards. Perkins Township was awarded \$500,000 last year for sidewalks along Strub Road and for crosswalk improvements. Carrie Whitaker said Vermilion, Huron and the City of Huron plan to reapply this year and hopefully funding levels will remain.

CURRENT BUSINESS

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

ITEMS #1 AND #9 WERE READ OUT OF CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER

ITEM #2 – Submitted by Amanda Meyers, Paralegal

Budgetary Information: The cost associated with these purchase agreements is the total amount of the title examination, deed preparation and survey. Any such costs shall be recouped by the city from the nonrefundable earnest money deposits required to be paid by purchasers upon sale. The purchasers shall pay the real estate transfer tax and recording fees upon purchase. By returning this non-productive land to tax producing status, the taxing districts will immediately begin collecting real property taxes and assessments once again.

ORDINANCE NO. 13-012: It is requested an ordinance be passed **declaring that certain real property owned by the city as part of the land reutilization program identified as parcel #56-00632.000, located on East Madison Street, Sandusky, is no longer needed for any municipal purpose and authorizing the execution of purchase agreements with respect to that real property;** and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Upon motion of Pervis Brown and second of Keith Grohe, the commission voted to approve this ordinance according to Section 14 of the city charter. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole, Keith Grohe, Jeff Smith and Julie Farrar, 6. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole, Keith Grohe, Jeff Smith and Julie Farrar, 6. The Vice President declared the ordinance passed.

ITEM #3

RESOLUTION NO. 006-13R: It is requested a resolution be passed **strongly opposing the passage of House Bill 5 by the Ohio General Assembly which proposes uniformity measures for municipal income tax in the form of unfunded mandates and a substantial loss of revenue;** and declaring that this resolution shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Upon motion of Keith Grohe and second of Wesley Poole, the commission voted to approve this resolution according to Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: Julie Farrar asked Hank Solowiej to explain House Bill 5. Hank Solowiej said the state is trying to standardize local income taxes using the same forms, criteria and definitions which will have a dramatic impact on every municipality with an income tax. There have already been impacts as a result of state action (decreases or elimination in estate taxes, local government funding, tangible personal property tax) and is pushing back to the local level with very bad impacts. This will take the local control out of the income tax; it is a very lengthy bill which is getting a lot of discussion statewide. Diedre Cole asked if income tax will be distributed to the State of Ohio and then sent back to the municipalities if this House Bill succeeds. Hank Solowiej said the collection part of the initial proposal was removed from the bill and he believes, as the bill is currently written, income tax will be collected by the Regional Income Tax Administration. One major issue is the net operating loss during a five-year carry forward period which currently is not allowed at all. This would have an impact on the city's cash flow. Many cities are opposing this House Bill along with the Ohio Municipal League. Diedre Cole said there was a major discussion about this at the OML's session last December.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole, Keith Grohe, Jeff Smith and Julie Farrar, 6. Roll call on the resolution: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole, Keith Grohe, Jeff Smith and Julie Farrar, 6. The Vice President declared the resolution passed.

ITEM #4 – Submitted by Carrie R. Handy, Chief Planner

Budgetary Information: The City of Sandusky will award WSOS Community Action Commission, Inc. \$62,476 to provide down payment assistance for home ownership, homebuyer counseling and educational services to low and moderate income residents in Sandusky under the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant. There is no impact to the city's general fund.

ORDINANCE NO. 13-013: It is requested an ordinance be passed **authorizing and directing the city manager to enter into a subrecipient agreement with WSOS Community Action Commission, Inc. and to expend funds in an amount not to exceed \$62,476 from the FY 2012 Community Development Block Grant;** 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 Keith Grohe, the commission voted to approve this ordinance according to Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: Diedre Cole said she noticed there was approximately \$24,000 for salary and fringes, another \$5,800 for administrative costs and the total amount of this money is 32% of the \$60,000 going to the recipient. Carrie Handy said WSOS is also providing homebuyer counseling services, financial fitness counseling and down payment assistance.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole, Keith Grohe, Jeff Smith and Julie Farrar, 6. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole, Keith Grohe, Jeff Smith and Julie Farrar, 6. The Vice President declared the ordinance passed.

ITEM #5 – Submitted by Victoria Kurt, Recreation Program Supervisor

Budgetary Information: The current fee schedule will not negatively impact the general fund. It is the desire of these fees to continue to increase the overall usage of the course through memberships, punch cards and daily paid rounds. We will still strive to be the area's lowest priced golf course while still providing a quality experience to our golfers attracting both locals and visitors.

ORDINANCE NO. 13-014: It is requested an ordinance be passed **approving the fee schedule for the Mills Creek Golf Course established by the city manager pursuant to Section 973.02 of the codified ordinances of the City of Sandusky;** 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 Jeff Smith, the commission voted to approve this ordinance according to Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: Wesley Poole said he supports this and said Victoria Kurt - Recreation Program Supervisor - has done a good job managing the golf course; if she says she can keep the current fee schedule and people will continue to use the course, this is great.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole, Keith Grohe, Jeff Smith and Julie Farrar, 6. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole, Keith Grohe, Jeff Smith and Julie Farrar, 6. The Vice President declared the ordinance passed.

ITEM #6 – Submitted by Victoria Kurt, Recreation Division Supervisor

Budgetary Information: The agreements will not result in any additional budgetary expenses. The city will benefit from the agreed upon ballfield maintenance performed by the leagues.

A. ORDINANCE NO. 13-015: It is requested an ordinance be passed **authorizing and directing the city manager to enter into a five (5) year license agreement with Sandusky Central Catholic School for priority use of field #5 and Field #9 located at Dorn Community Park for the Sandusky Central Catholic High School baseball and softball programs (March 1 through May 30) beginning March 1, 2013;** 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 Keith Grohe, the commission voted to approve this ordinance according to Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: Wesley Poole said he is in favor of this legislation and is glad this facility is being utilized. Baseball is important to the community. Julie Farrar said this field has been used by SCCS for quite some time and they have made it their own through volunteer time and effort and it is well taken care of.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole, Keith Grohe, Jeff Smith and Julie Farrar, 6. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole, Keith Grohe, Jeff Smith and Julie Farrar, 6. The Vice President declared the ordinance passed.

B. ORDINANCE NO. 13-016: It is requested an ordinance be passed **authorizing and directing the city manager to enter into a five (5) year license agreement with the Sandusky Fastpitch Association for priority use of fields #1, #2, #3 and #4 located at Dorn Community Park and Venice Road Field located at Venice Road Park for the Sandusky Fastpitch Association's Sandusky Bay Area Softball League (May 1 through August 31) beginning May 1, 2013;** 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 Jeff Smith, the commission voted to approve this ordinance according to Section 14 of the city charter. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole, Keith Grohe, Jeff Smith and Julie Farrar, 6. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas:

Pervis Brown, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole, Keith Grohe, Jeff Smith and Julie Farrar, 6. The Vice President declared the ordinance passed.

ITEM #7 – Submitted by James Lang, Interim Police Chief

Budgetary Information: The total cost for a new Ford Utility Police Interceptor sport utility vehicle is at this time estimated at \$25,447.50 and \$3,145.25 for interior equipment to outfit the vehicle for a total of \$28,592.75. This grant requires no matching funds and the city can apply for funds up to \$30,000.

RESOLUTION NO. 007-13R: It is requested a resolution be passed **authorizing and directing the city manager to file an application with the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services for funding through the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Special Solicitation for Law Enforcement for the Sandusky Police Department;** and declaring that this resolution shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Upon motion of Pervis Brown and second of Jeff Smith, the commission voted to approve this resolution according to Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: Jim Lang said this vehicle will be set up as a crime scene investigation unit and special equipment will be placed in it. There will be a divider for the equipment and cabinets with drawers for special equipment. Diedre Cole asked if the vehicle can be used for other tasks and Jim Lang said it will also be equipped with emergency equipment.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole, Keith Grohe, Jeff Smith and Julie Farrar, 6. Roll call on the resolution: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole, Keith Grohe, Jeff Smith and Julie Farrar, 6. The Vice President declared the resolution passed.

ITEM #8 – Submitted by James Lang, Interim Police Chief

Budgetary Information: The total cost for ten (10) bicycle helmets is approximately \$350. The balance of the monies - \$2,650 - will be budgeted for officer's wages to conduct the patrols. This grant requires no matching funds from the city.

RESOLUTION NO. 008-13R: It is requested a resolution be passed **approving and ratifying a grant application submitted to Norfolk Southern for funding through their local discretion grant program for the Sandusky Police Department;** and declaring that this resolution 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 resolution according to Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: Jim Lang said this grant is in the amount of \$3,000 for the purchase of new bicycle helmets and the current ones are approximately 15 years old. It will also be used to fund (\$2,600) bicycle patrols in the downtown area within a 10 – 15 minute area. Officers will be able to go into neighborhoods and restaurants and the city currently has six bicycles.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole, Keith Grohe, Jeff Smith and Julie Farrar, 6. Roll call on the resolution: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole, Keith Grohe, Jeff Smith and Julie Farrar, 6. The Vice President declared the resolution passed.

ITEM #9 – Submitted by Troy Vaccaro, Chief Foreman

Budgetary Information: Any amounts generated annually by said fees, rates and charges of shelter and gazebo rentals will become part of the general fund and shall be used to defray the cost of any improvements directly related to the shelters and gazebos. Any amounts generated annually by said fees, rates and charges of palm and fern rentals will become part of the Washington Parks/Greenhouse Endowment Fund.

PASSED FIRST READING: It is requested an ordinance be passed **approving a new fee schedule for shelter and gazebo reservations and palm and fern rentals established for the recreation department;** 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 Pervis Brown, the commission voted to approve this ordinance according to Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: Julie Farrar asked when these fees were last raised and Nicole Ard said they have not been raised since 2007. Wesley Poole asked what the usage is of these areas and Nicole Ard said she does not

have specifics but when reserved, renters are given contact information so if there are issues or problems, they can contact staff. Nicole Ard said she spoke with the grounds staff last week about what can be done to free them up so more time can be spent in city parks. They do make rounds frequently but in between, sometimes people come out. There were a couple of past instances where persons with negative experiences did not follow up with the city to help. Keith Grohe said he is upset about the money going back into the general fund without being earmarked for use in the gazebos and park areas. Nicole Ard said there is a parks fund and hiring additional persons has been discussed as well as freeing up existing staff to work in a more efficient manner. The employees who take care of city parks spend quite a bit of time at vacant and abandoned properties throughout the city and she would like them to spend more time in city parks. This is not directly tied to this item, but she would like to recapture all of our costs and this has not been looked at for some time. There are some things that need to be done with different registrations in order to cover costs. Diedre Cole said the city utilized the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Youth program last year and asked how this worked for the city. Diedre Cole asked if it is possible to utilize this program again if it is available and Nicole Ard said she is not certain if this would help. Nicole Ard said there has been some discussion about utilizing seasonal staff year-round to help with this and currently grounds staff is working at the golf course. Persons brought in through Job & Family Services may be teenagers and not able to be left in a park without supervision. There may be persons who can hit the ground running (seasonal staff) and be available for a longer period of time. Diedre Cole said the city previously used persons owing fines to perform community service work and asked if this can be investigated. Nicole Ard said many of the community service persons are performing litter pickup and she will be happy to ask. Wesley Poole said he will vote no on this legislation as there are not enough specifics about what will be done with the money. This is the first he has seen a suggestion about raising rates and if there are citizens who have concerns and if the rates are going to go up, there are things that should be visibly improved. The system of calling when there are problems with areas needing to be cleaned up did not work as well as citizens would have liked. Diedre Cole said although she appreciates these comments, the communication states, "Any amounts generated annually by said fees, rates and charges of shelter and gazebo rentals will be become part of the general fund and shall be used to defray the cost of any improvements directly related to the shelters and gazebos." Wesley said she (Diedre) is correct and accurate, but not precise, and this is the difference. This does not state the money will be spent on anything specifically and if the money goes into the general fund, it could be used for any number of improvements. Julie Farrar said she supports this legislation and everything is going up and we live it every day and the rates have not been increased since 2007. Julie Farrar said in Sandusky, residents currently pay \$50 for use of a shelter for an entire day and/or evening but in Huron, the cost is \$15/hour Monday through Friday and \$25/hour on weekends. Jeff Smith said the average gas price in 2007 was \$2.40 according to USA Today. The cost to rent park areas in Medina and Mentor is more expensive than Sandusky and raising these fees slightly is still cheaper than some non-waterfront communities. Nicole Ard said in addition to the comment regarding user fees toward parks, the city supported the Washington Park/Greenhouse endowment and money for palm and fern rentals goes into this endowment. Nicole Ard said she understands persons who have rented palms and ferns in the past have paid \$5/plant and then re-rented to other persons for much more. The city is very lenient and sometimes delivers these while people are taking full advantage of this. Diedre Cole said she understands the concerns but the city is at a point where it is maxed out in every single area. Staff does the best it can with what it is provided and the fee increase is not that much.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Diedre Cole, Jeff Smith and Julie Farrar, 4. Nays: Wesley Poole and Keith Grohe, 2. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Diedre Cole, Jeff Smith and Julie Farrar, 4. Nays: Wesley Poole and Keith Grohe, 2. The Vice President declared the ordinance passed at first reading.

ITEM #1 – Submitted by Carrie R. Handy, Chief Planner

Budgetary Information: There is no impact on the city's general fund. All projects in the program will be paid for through grant funds.

RESOLUTION NO. 009-13R: It is requested a resolution be passed **authorizing the filing of an application with the Ohio Department of Transportation for the 2013 Safe Routes to School cost reimbursement program;** and declaring that this resolution shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Upon motion of Wesley Poole and second of Keith Grohe, the commission voted to approve this resolution according to Section 14 of the city charter. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole, Keith Grohe, Jeff Smith and Julie Farrar, 6. Roll call on the resolution: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole, Keith Grohe, Jeff Smith and Julie Farrar, 6. The Vice President declared the resolution passed.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Upon motion of Jeff Smith and second of Pervis Brown, the commission voted to accept a donation in the amount of \$500 from Dustin Ness to help offset the cost of the 2013 Calendar of Events. The Vice President declared the motion passed.

Upon motion of Pervis Brown and second of Keith Grohe, the commission voted to accept a donation in the amount of \$25 from Ann Giesler for the greenhouse endowment fund. The Vice President declared the motion passed.

Upon motion of Keith Grohe and second of Jeff Smith, the commission voted to accept a donation in the amount of \$20 from Thomas Pusateri in memory of former Police Chief Jacoby. The Vice President declared the motion passed.

Nicole Ard **thanked the fire marshal for his work in trying to secure Homeland Security funds for the Sandusky Fire Department.** The city will be able to maintain its SAFER grant through December and staff is still looking at ways to provide the best level of service and is looking at ways to provide future funding for additional services. Nicole Ard said these are very competitive funds and thanked Paul Ricci for his efforts.

Nicole Ard said Jim Lang has received notice of an **award of 14 portable GPS units from the Ohio Department of Public Safety.** Jim Lang said this will help with the new Ohio accident reporting forms which are now four pages long and part of the new format is adding latitude and longitude. These units will help to provide this information and Nicole Ard thanked Jim Lang for his efforts in obtaining these. **Upon motion of Pervis Brown and second of Keith Grohe, the commission voted to accept a donation of 14 portable GPS units from the Ohio Department of Public Safety. The Vice President declared the motion passed.**

Nicole Ard said **interviews are scheduled next week for the new police chief.**

Nicole Ard said Jim Lang and Phil Frost are looking into the unfortunate **shooting incident from last week involving a dog on Washington Court.** Nicole Ard expressed condolences to the families and as a pet owner, she feels for their loss.

Nicole Ard noted the city attended a very positive meeting last week with staff from the Ohio Department of Transportation regarding the **grade separation project.** This project is moving along very well; there will be traffic delays on February 26 as the bridge beams will be delivered to the site area.

Nicole Ard said there was a question recently about the **First Street waterline repair project.** The last time this area was resurfaced was in 1983; there was also work done at the intersection of First Street and Cedar Point Drive in 1983.

OLD BUSINESS

Keith Grohe asked if **the city is still working with Erie Materials regarding the coal docks.** Keith Grohe said Canada is starting to cut back on coal and asked what this may do to our shipping lane and if there will be federal funding if cut too far to maintain the channel. Don Icsman asked for clarification if this was about dredging and Keith Grohe said there will be a dredging project further out as the shipping lanes begin to dwindle because Canada is no longer getting coal. Don Icsman said a year or so ago, considerable work was done and discussion took place with Erie Materials and costs for what they were thinking about doing. If no one has heard from them since, nothing is happening. Keith Grohe said he learned online Port Washington is seeking to convert coal docks into greenspace; Sandusky cannot afford to lose any more shipping from this area. Diedre Cole asked which coal docks are being referred to and Keith said both the active coal docks and coal dock No's. 1 & 2.

NEW BUSINESS

Julie Farrar said **the first home sold through the Land Bank program** is completed and there will be an open house on March 11 from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. at 821 First Street. This property was bought and rehabbed and she is excited to see what the property owners have done with it. Diedre Cole said she is certain those in the neighborhood appreciate what has been done.

Wesley Poole asked if there is an update, plans or discussion about **Ohio Bike Week**. Nicole Ard said the organizer has asked about extending to the Jackson Street Pier and Victoria Kurt is working on a policy for use of the Paper District Amphitheatre. This will be a large difference for persons in the Chesapeake to have activity on both sides of the building. Wesley Poole asked how long before this is complete and Nicole Ard said the policy is being drafted and once approved, a waiver must be completed to extend the footprint for the event. Wesley Poole said he would like input from the public going forward about this. Nicole Ard said there have been smaller requests for use of the public area west of Chesapeake and there is a process for obtaining a noise waiver and extending the event area(s).

Diedre Cole announced the **resignation of Dr. Richard Koonce from the Human Relations Commission**. The letter received reads: "I, Dr. Richard S. Koonce, hereby tender my resignation from the City of Sandusky's Human Relations Commission due to other needs requiring my immediate attention. I have decided to remain committed solely to issues and concerns that will address the needs of children and teens in our community. I appreciated the opportunity to serve on the HRC, and I also value the commitment and passion of my fellow commission members. Thank you for the opportunity to serve in this capacity for the past four years. It has been both an honor and a privilege to do so. The date of my resignation is effective as of February 18, 2013. If you have any questions, please either contact me via e-mail at rkoonce@bgsu.edu or by phone at 419.366.4564." Diedre Cole said Richard Koonce has been an invaluable member of this commission for the past few years and extended her deep gratitude to him for serving.

Upon motion of Julie Farrar and second of Jeff Smith, the commission voted to appoint Jennifer Washington to the Human Relations Commission for the remainder of a five year term which will expire October 10, 2013. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole, Keith Grohe, Jeff Smith and Julie Farrar, 6. The Vice President declared the motion passed.

Diedre Cole said Linda O'Malley and Scott Biechele are two candidates who have applied for the vacant seat on the Oakland Cemetery Board. Diedre Cole said her recommendation is to appoint Linda O'Malley to this position.

Upon motion of Wesley Poole and second of Julie Farrar, the commission voted to appoint Linda O'Malley to the Oakland Cemetery Board for a three year term which will expire on January 31, 2016. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole, Keith Grohe, Jeff Smith and Julie Farrar, 6. The Vice President declared the motion passed.

Upon motion of Wesley Poole and second of Keith Grohe, the commission voted to appoint Terry Michaels to the ADA Advisory Board for a three year term which will expire on December 31, 2015.

Discussion: Wesley Poole said Terry Michaels attended last week's ADA Advisory Board and they support placing him on the board. Terry Michaels has the time for the committee and will be a good addition.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole, Keith Grohe, Jeff Smith and Julie Farrar, 6. The Vice President declared the motion passed.

Diedre Cole said there will be a work session on **March 6 at 6 p.m. regarding the 2013 budget** and the public is welcome and invited to attend.

Upon motion of Pervis Brown and second of Keith Grohe, the commission voted to have an executive session regarding personnel, engineering department. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole, Keith Grohe, Jeff Smith and Julie Farrar 6. The Vice President declared the motion passed.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Ester Colvin, 1316 Pierce Street, said she is concerned about the blacktop in the area between Fairlawn Court and Derrick apartments which is now a street and is used by school and transit vehicles. When new concrete was poured on Buchanan Street, the level was raised too high and the water runs down and stands on Pierce Street. Ester Colvin is concerned as this roadway is not plowed or salted any longer because the city has said it is an alley, yet it is no longer used as an alley. The engineer has said this area has stones and is why it is an alley but it has a blacktop surface. Wesley Poole said he is not certain why the city has a policy of not plowing alleys, but this access way is used for the interior of the apartment complexes and is a major thoroughfare where kids walk to school. The city's policy on alleys needs to be looked at, especially with the Safe Routes to School discussions.

Sharon Johnson, 1139 Fifth Street, said she does not have a problem with raising the gazebo and shelter fees but they should be checked when rented to ensure they are clean. Sharon Johnson said she is still confused about House Bill 5 and asked if the state will collect all income taxes and then return them to the municipalities if this passes. Hank Solowiej said the state is looking to standardize income tax collections so they all play by the same rules as far as what is considered income, what can be excluded, what forms are used, etc. Sharon Johnson asked the status of the police chief selection and Nicole Ard said as announced earlier, three interviews are scheduled next week and the background checks have been completed. Sharon Johnson asked if the two outside candidates are still on board and Nicole Ard said they are. Sharon Johnson asked the status of filling the position of city engineer and Nicole Ard said the application deadline was February 15 and applications are being reviewed.

Matt Morgan, 1219 East Perkins Avenue, asked if the Recreation Board markets the use of parks or gazebos. Diedre Cole said rental forms are available online. Nicole Ard said a local business has helped provide a calendar of events which is part of marketing these facilities in addition to the summer fun guide which goes to residents and is distributed through the Sandusky City School System. Julie Farrar asked if this information could be included in the Town Money Saver and Nicole Ard said the golf course has been advertised and this could also be done.

Timothy Work, 517 42nd Street, said he would like to express his ideas to help improve the quality of life with constructive input, ideas and opinions including: increased code enforcement efforts, investigate selling the city building property which is inefficient and needs updating, hire a police chief who desires to work with citizens and business owners to maintain crime prevention techniques, establishing a voucher based parking system in the downtown area to be utilized for beautification efforts similar to the North Market in Columbus, collaborate with Cedar Point for mutually benefitting concepts such as the reestablishment of a ferry service, identify what helps and hurts businesses to locate downtown and encourage residents to live here, identify untapped revenue sources, post pamphlets to residents regarding trash pickup regulations or return to back yard refuse collection (not curbside collection); he applauded the efforts of the Safe Routes to School committee. Timothy Work said citizens need to address their thoughts in a constructive manner to help attract people to the community. Diedre Cole thanked Timothy Work for expressing his vision and suggested he volunteer on city boards or commissions; Diedre Cole suggested joining the Bayfront Corridor Committee. Julie Farrar said she agrees with what has been said and does not like trash cans at the curb every day of the week. Wesley Poole said he agrees with most of what has been said and asked him to walk through the city building to see the rest of the office areas.

Sharon Johnson, 1139 Fifth Street, said she has not heard from the city commission about relocating city hall.

The Vice President announced a recess of the regular session at 6:24 p.m. One executive session was held beginning at 6:35 p.m. Upon motion of Diedre Cole and second of Julie Farrar, the commission voted to adjourn the meeting at 6:43 p.m. The Vice President declared the motion passed.

Kelly L. Kresser
Clerk of the City Commission

John F. Hamilton
President of the City Commission