

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.

City staff present: Paul Ricci - Fire Chief, John Orzech - Police Chief, Jane Cullen – Project Engineer, Anna Enderle – Assistant Planner, Don Rumbutis – IT, Lynne Gast-King - Assistant Law Director, Nicole Ard - City Manager, Hank Solowiej - Finance Director and Kelly Kresser - Commission Clerk.

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

Upon motion of Pervis Brown and second of Wesley Poole, the commission voted to approve the minutes of the May 28 city commission meeting and suspend the oral reading. The Vice President declared the motion passed.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (*agenda items only*)

Timothy Work, 517 42nd Street, asked if pedestrian crosswalks are included in the Perkins Avenue signalization project (Item #1). Jane Cullen indicated they are included, both audio and visual, and the plans are available in the engineering department.

CURRENT BUSINESS

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

ITEM #1 – Submitted by Jane E. Cullen, P.E.

Budgetary Information: There is no budgetary consequence with this legislation. However, the project cost 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 \$672,821 with the remaining twenty percent (20%) of \$168,205.25 being split between the City of Sandusky and Erie County. The city's portion of \$84,102.63 will be funded with street funds for a total project cost of \$841,026.25. The total project cost includes environmental, right of way acquisition, construction and inspection costs.

RESOLUTION NO. 020-13R: It is requested a resolution be passed **authorizing and directing the city manager to enter into the LPA federal Local-LET project agreement with the Ohio Department of Transportation for the Perkins Avenue signalization project;** 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 Keith Grohe, the commission voted to approve this resolution according to Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: Wesley Poole said this is a good project which the city has been awaiting for a long time. Traffic lights will no longer be dangled across the intersection and the upgrades will help with future maintenance and repairs. Diedre Cole said money was budgeted in the SRTS grant (which the city did not receive) for infrastructure improvements on Hayes Avenue. Jane Cullen said these are already in the plans and the new crosswalks are included.

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 #2 – Submitted by Jane E. Cullen, P.E.

Budgetary Information: The revised contract amount with change order #4 is \$536,272.03. The breakdown of the revised contract costs is as follows: \$425,569.18 from the Federal Highway Administration funds through the Ohio Department of Transportation and the Erie County Metropolitan Planning Organization \$44,129.67 from Community Block Grant Funds and \$62,262.63 from the street fund and Cedar Fair will provide \$4,310.55 to cover the cost of the change in chain link fence to a black decorative fence.

ORDINANCE NO. 13-053: It is requested an ordinance be passed **authorizing and directing the city manager to approve the fourth change order for work being performed for the Cedar Point Drive improvement project in the amount of \$841.35 to be paid to Erie Blacktop, Inc. of Sandusky, Ohio; 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 Wesley Poole, the commission voted to approve this ordinance according to Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: Pervis Brown asked if this will be the last of the expenses for this project and Jane Cullen indicated a final audit will take place at the end of the month or at the beginning of July.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole, Jeff Smith and Julie Farrar, 5. Abstain: Keith Grohe, 1. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole, Jeff Smith and Julie Farrar, 5. Abstain: Keith Grohe, 1. The Vice President declared the ordinance passed.

ITEM #3 – Submitted by John Orzech, Police Chief

Budgetary Information: The cost per vehicle is \$21,038 plus \$74 for one (1) additional set of FOB keys for a total cost of \$63,188 for the three (3) police vehicles which will be paid for with capital improvement funds.

ORDINANCE NO. 13-054: It is requested an ordinance be passed **authorizing and directing the city manager to purchase three (3) 2014 Chevy Impala police special vehicles through the State of Ohio Cooperative Purchasing program from Taylor Chevrolet of Lancaster, Ohio;** 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 Julie Farrar, 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 #4 – Submitted by Troy Vaccaro, Chief Foreman

Budgetary Information: Proceeds from the sale of the items will be placed into the city's appropriate funds.

ORDINANCE NO. 13-055: It is requested an ordinance be passed **authorizing and directing the city manager to dispose of vehicles and equipment as having become unnecessary and unfit for city use pursuant to Section 25 of the City Charter;** and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Upon motion of 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.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Upon motion of Pervis Brown and second of Jeff Smith, the commission voted to accept a donation from Dave and Dianne Meredith in the amount of \$150 for the green fund. The Vice President declared the motion passed.

Nicole Ard said the **first Movies By the Bay event** at the Paper District Marina Amphitheatre, *The Lorax*, has been canceled for this evening due to inclement weather, and is rescheduled for Monday, June 17. It begins at dusk.

Nicole Ard said the former **Apex, Sandusky Cabinets and Keller Building projects** are in various stages and demolition specifications are under review. At the next commission meeting, there may be more information about the demolition of the Apex property from the consultant. Bid specifications have been received and are being reviewed for the Sandusky Cabinets and Keller Building.

Nicole Ard said the former **Wisteria Farm property on Campbell Street** has been sold, which is good news. This will continue to be stabilized and at some point, redeveloped.

Nicole Ard said the **west side overpass is on schedule** according to the Ohio Department of Transportation. Staff has hosted a series of meetings with the railroad regarding the current traffic pattern(s) as this is not supposed to be happening.

Nicole Ard thanked Lt. Phil Frost for taking the lead with the **Ohio Bike Week event**. Nicole Ard thanked staff in all city departments for their support and help with the event. Nicole Ard thanked Chief Bruce Gower and Detective Mark Roach of the Clyde Police Department for use of their command vehicle as well as for programming it for the city's cruisers and radios. Nicole Ard thanked Sandusky County officials for use of their Gator during Ohio Bike Week. Nicole Ard said statistics were provided from the police and fire departments and incidents were relatively minor. The Paper District Marina was also at full capacity during the weekend and not everyone arrived by motorcycle. Diedre Cole said there were a total of 19 calls for service made by the fire department during bike week while the police department had 13 calls for service and this is remarkable given the number of persons involved. John Orzech said the information provided by the event coordinator indicated there were 160,000 attendees during the ten-day event. John Orzech said Saturday drew the largest crowd in all of the years bike week has been held here. There were few incidents overall and he heard from some of the downtown business persons who indicated they had record sales. Pervis Brown said for the five years he has been on the commission, Bike Week seemed to be a hassle and he commended the city manager for not having confusion and misdirection this year. Pervis Brown thanked Nicole Ard for maneuvering through this chaos and Nicole Ard said thanks should go to the staff.

Nicole Ard thanked Troy Vaccaro and staff in the fleet maintenance division for **another successful vehicle sale on www.govdeals.com**. A police vehicle sold for approximately \$2,800 and this brings the total amount of sales since December, 2012 to \$28,707. Troy Vaccaro is trying to turn these vehicles over as soon as possible to facilitate new purchases.

Nicole Ard thanked D.J. Loomis and staff in the building and street departments for making **repairs at the skate park**. This area has been made usable and as safe as possible. Nicole Ard indicated there is a gentleman interested organizing in a future competition to help raise funds for improvements to the skate park.

Nicole Ard said she recently had an inquiry from **Larren Wikel of Erie Blacktop regarding a proposal to purchase property near the coal docks**. He is interested in speaking to the current city commission as a follow-up to a previous presentation made at a meeting.

Nicole Ard said there are two **Requests for Proposals out for food concessions at Shoreline Park and the Sandusky Bay Pavilion properties** and the deadline is June 14.

Nicole Ard said there will be **upcoming street closures for the Party at the Plaza and Remember Cruisin' Charity Car Show**, beginning this weekend. The **Farmer's Market** also will take place this Saturday.

Keith Grohe asked about the **Huron Park splash pad** and Nicole Ard said we are now awaiting a second part for repair. Nicole Ard indicated contact will be made with other water parks as to how they take care of these facilities to help eliminate the city's issues. Nicole Ard said the city is doing what it can to keep the water park open even while having these issues. Diedre Cole said she believes there has been a problem with the shutoff since the installation. Keith Grohe said this is something different and contacting other water parks is a step in the right direction.

Nicole Ard said the first **Beats By the Bay concert** will take place at the Paper District Marina Amphitheatre on Sunday, June 16. The next **Just Walk With a Doc** event will take place on Monday, June 17 at 6 p.m. The **Sandusky Area Maritime Museum's boat show and christening** will be at the Shelby Street Boat Launch Facility and the Paper District Marina this weekend. The Tuesday evening **Washington Park Gazebo concerts** begin Tuesday, June 11. Diedre Cole said she believes all of these events are on the city's online calendar and urged interested persons to check them out.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Diedre Cole announced **two public hearings have been scheduled for the next city commission meeting** on June 24:

- 1) Request to amend the zone map at 2219 Campbell Street and a request to vacate a portion of an alley right-of-way located at the intersection of Campbell Street and West Perkins Avenue;
- 2) 2014 Tax Budget.

Diedre Cole said there is **one opening on the ADA Advisory Board**. Citizens who may be interested in becoming a member of this board can contact the city clerk, Kelly Kresser, at 419.627.5850.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Matt Morgan, 1219 East Perkins Avenue, said as a local merchant, Ohio Bike Week was very good for business although his usual business dwindled a little bit. He was able to make up for this with ancillary sales related to persons who attended bike week. He was able to get onto Market Street before 12 p.m. and had no trouble getting through the security checkpoint. If you give people a reason to come here, they will spend their time and money and will continue to come back.

Timothy Work, 517 42nd Street, said he has heard people say Ohio Bike Week brings a lot of money into Sandusky, but he is not sure where it goes. There are some downtown business owners who say they have good or record sales, but others basically shut their businesses down because they do not lend to this type of activity. He suggested there may be an action plan to survey downtown businesses; he is not against Ohio Bike Week, but thinks events like this could be at the SBP with tents and vendors rather than blocking off the downtown. The image is not what the City of Sandusky should be looking for with this type of activity and this is just his personal opinion. Timothy Work said he would like to see the city look toward beautification and healthy living, not just turning the downtown over for a big party. Wesley Poole said there are more days in this year and to keep Ohio Bike Week as it is while planning other events that bring people down for the businesses that do not benefit from this event. Wesley Poole said he knows there are businesses which may have to close for Ohio Bike Week and the commission is willing to support an event which will bring other customers. Wesley Poole thanked members of the community who welcomed the participants to this event and stated those who came to look at the activities may end up generating other business during different times of the year. Wesley Poole said additional jobs were created as a result of this event and this was not just a benefit to the bars, restaurants and motels. Jeff Smith said one of the goals is not necessarily to get people to come into a business on the day(s) of Ohio Bike Week, but to brand the business in their mind so they return afterward to make purchases. This is half of the battle and perhaps businesses can offer a coupon for use after Ohio Bike Week. The old pictures of Sandusky are packed with people downtown and there are a few events that draw this type of crowd and getting people here is half of the battle. Diedre Cole said one of the things she enjoys most about Ohio Bike Week is the diversity. Persons do not have to be a Harley Davidson fan, but is part of this diversity. The city does not want to portray the image it does not want anyone of a particular type and it needs to be inclusive. There are things merchants can do to entice different types of customers and make places as enticing as possible and this is what bike week does. Diedre Cole said she was pleased with the attendance numbers and the lack of the serious nature in police and fire calls. Keith Grohe said he rode a Harley all his life, but did receive a couple of complaints from the physicians located downtown who were minus approximately \$9,000 worth of business. These are offices with elderly patients (one is a psychiatrist) and the city can do a better job when it comes to taking care of everyone, not just those who come for Ohio Bike Week. Timothy Work said he is not against Ohio Bike Week but to think about relocating the event from the downtown. Timothy Work asked if the big bushes or weeds under the Milan Road overpass are going to be sprayed and Nicole Ard said this work was delayed, but it will be completed.

Tim Schwanger, 362 Sheffield Way, said asked if the former Sandusky Cabinet project is a little behind as he believes demolition was supposed to be started by the first quarter of 2013. Jane Cullen said she will double check the deadline, but the city is fine as far as on-time completion. Tim Schwanger asked if the city spent money on the Deep Water slip spill or if the city monitored the cleanup. Jane Cullen said this cost was on the contractor and the business. The Erie County Emergency Management Agency and the Sandusky Fire Department were called as well as the EPA and they are looking at an alternate method to tie in to the sewers in this area. Tim Schwanger asked if there will be a final report on how much the city spent during Ohio Bike Week and asked if the city collects income tax for this event. He suggested perhaps this will ease some of the pain for those who are opposed to the event. Keith Grohe said he agrees and this has been upsetting to him for a long time as there are cash businesses which do not seem to be collecting state or federal taxes. There has to be a way to do this and the city needs to do its

due diligence to make sure it collects what should be collected. Tim Schwanger suggested the event organizer provide a list of the vendors to make sure they are doing what they should; Keith Grohe suggested Hank Solowiej or Don Icsman could help with this. Wesley Poole said if he is not mistaken, state sales tax is collected by the State of Ohio and the system is designed so that the vendor has a relationship with the state and this does not involve the city. The city has plenty of work to do and he suggested letting the state do this.

Upon motion of Keith Grohe and second of Julie Farrar, the commission voted to adjourn the meeting at 5:42 p.m. The Vice President declared the motion passed.

Kelly L. Kresser, CMC
Clerk of the City Commission

John F. Hamilton
President of the City Commission