

**Dennis Murray called the meeting to order** at 5 p.m. after the **Invocation**, given by Wesley Poole, and the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

The clerk called **the roll** and the following Commissioners responded: Jeff Smith, Scott Schell, Dennis Murray, Wesley Poole and Naomi Twine.

**Upon motion of Jeff Smith and second of Scott Schell, the commission voted to excuse Dick Brady and Julie Farrar. The President declared the motion passed.**

**City staff present:** Paul Ricci – Fire Chief, John Orzech - Police Chief, Aaron Klein - City Engineer, Rebecca Corrigan – Chief Planner, Thomas Schwan – Transit Administrator, Don Rumbutis - IT, Don Icsman - Law Director, Hank Solowiej – Finance Director and Kelly Kresser - Commission Clerk.

**Upon motion of Naomi Twine and second of Wesley Poole, the commission voted to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2014, city commission meeting and suspend the oral reading. The President declared the motion passed.**

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

None.

#### **PRESENTATIONS**

**RESOLUTION 020-14R:** It is requested a resolution be passed **accepting the retirement of Paul E. Ricci and recognizing his outstanding service as a member of the Sandusky Fire Department;** and declaring that this resolution shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

**Upon motion of Dennis Murray and second of Jeff Smith, the commission voted to approve this resolution.**

*Discussion:* Dennis Murray said this is the last city commission meeting for the retiring Fire Chief, Paul Ricci, and presented this Resolution and a Key to the City of Sandusky honoring him for his years of service. Paul Ricci said on March 14, 2011, he took the oath of office for the Sandusky Fire Department and thanked the Charter Officers, the commissioners and staff members - including the fire department's command staff. The command staff was an incredible resource and made the job very rewarding. Paul Ricci thanked the citizens of Sandusky for providing the opportunity to serve them. He thanked his boss, Linda Ricci, for putting up with 31 years of public service and said this means a lot to him. Dennis Murray said it is a great compliment to the leadership provided for leading the organization through some very difficult times and taking a progressive role with dispatching and looking toward the future.

**Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Jeff Smith, Scott Schell, Dennis Murray, Wesley Poole and Naomi Twine, 5. The President declared the resolution passed.**

#### **PROCLAMATIONS**

Wesley Poole read a Proclamation declaring **May, 2014, Motorcycle Awareness Month in the City of Sandusky**, and presented it to Brian Jordan, Deputy Director of the State of Ohio and Treasurer of American Bikers Aimed Toward Education (ABATE). Brian Jordan said the members of ABATE obtain proclamations from other cities, villages and townships which are then presented on the steps of the Ohio Capitol Building the first Saturday of May. This is an annual event for the motoring public and motorcycle awareness is a shared responsibility to keep everyone safe. Brian Jordan thanked the commissioners for their annual involvement.

**CURRENT BUSINESS**

**Upon motion of Jeff Smith and second of Julie Farrar, the commission voted to accept all communications. The President declared the motion passed.**

## ITEM #1

PASSED AT FIRST READING 4.14.14

**ORDINANCE NO. 14-045**: It is requested an ordinance be passed **establishing a Bicentennial Commission and providing for the duration, power and duties thereof.**

**Upon motion of Jeff Smith and second of Wes Poole, the commission voted to approve this ordinance.**

*Discussion:* Dennis Murray urged the commissioners to share their thoughts about membership with the Chairman, Dr. Bill Semans, so there is a good representation from the community.

**Roll call on the ordinance: Jeff Smith, Scott Schell, Dennis Murray, Wesley Poole and Naomi Twine, 5. The President declared the ordinance passed.**

## ITEM #2

FIVE-YEAR AGREEMENT WITH F.S.I./FULTZ AND SON, INC. FOR RECYCLE SERVICES

**ORDINANCE NO. 14-046**: It is requested an ordinance be passed **authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into a five year agreement with F.S.I./Fultz and Son., Inc., of Clyde, Ohio, for services to transport collected recyclable material from city-owned drop-off collection sites; ratifying the prior authorization for the City Manager and/or Finance Director to purchase twelve 10 yard front style roll-off containers at a total cost of \$23,995; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.**

**Upon motion of Wes Poole and second of Scott Schell, the commission voted to approve this ordinance.**

*Discussion:* Wesley Poole said he is glad this is getting done and stated it will save the city money over time. It will take a few weeks to get on a good cycle and know how often these containers will have to be picked up. Wesley Poole asked if these bins are for residential use only rather than for commercial purposes and Don Icsman said this is the intention. One of the aspects of the solid waste plan is to offer this center as opposed to offering recycling at residences. Dennis Murray asked if signage can be posted indicating "Residents Only" and anyone else using this facility could be considered trespassing and cited. Don Icsman said we need to make sure couches are not dumped here and the more frequently the hauler picks up the happier he is, but asked what the hauler does with materials that are garbage. The city needs to work on this and suggested a camera at the locations. Dennis Murray said he would like the people who abuse the system to know this is on them and is their responsibility. Dennis Murray asked Aaron Klein to see if the contractor would place signage at the location as, per the contract, they are responsible for signage.

**Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Jeff Smith, Scott Schell, Dennis Murray, Wesley Poole and Naomi Twine, 5. Roll call on the ordinance: Jeff Smith, Scott Schell, Dennis Murray, Wesley Poole and Naomi Twine, 5. The President declared the ordinance passed.**

## ITEM #3 – Submitted by Amanda Meyers, Paralegal

SALE OF LAND THROUGH LAND REUTILIZATION PROGRAM

**Budgetary Information**: The cost associated with the request for proposals is the total amount of administrative staff time utilized and fees for newspaper publication. It is anticipated that these expenses will be recouped upon sale.

**ORDINANCE NO. 14-047**: It is requested an ordinance be passed **declaring that certain real property acquired through the city's land reutilization program and owned by the city**

**identified as Parcel #58-02911.000 located at 1503 Clinton Street is no longer needed for any municipal purpose and authorizing and directing the City Manager to proceed with a Request for Proposals process for the sale of property;** and declaring that this ordinance take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

**Upon motion of Scott Schell and second of Jeff Smith, the commission voted to approve this ordinance.**

*Discussion:* Dennis Murray asked if there is a minimum the city will receive once bids are taken and Amanda Meyers said this is an absolute bid process and the city normally takes into consideration the rehabilitation efforts proposed. The more rehabilitation offered, the better the plans and the feasibility of financial wherewithal to do it. Dennis Murray said this program is now generating some money and Amanda Meyers said it is the city's fourth one.

**Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Jeff Smith, Scott Schell, Dennis Murray, Wesley Poole and Naomi Twine, 5. Roll call on the ordinance: Jeff Smith, Scott Schell, Dennis Murray, Wesley Poole and Naomi Twine, 5. The President declared the ordinance passed.**

ITEM #4 – Submitted by Amanda Meyers, Paralegal

#### SALE OF LAND THROUGH LAND REUTILIZATION PROGRAM

Budgetary Information: The cost associated with this purchase and sale agreement is the total amount of title search, deed preparation, recording and transfer fees, and any other customary fees that may be due and payable in the ordinary course of the sale and purchase transaction. The city will recoup the cost of the expenses from the nonrefundable earnest money deposit of one hundred and ninety eight dollars required to be paid by the purchaser. The taxing districts will begin collecting approximately one hundred forty three dollars and ninety one cents per year in real estate taxes.

[ORDINANCE NO. 14-048:](#) 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 #59-00513.000 located at 511 McDonough Street, Sandusky, is no longer needed for any municipal purpose and authorizing the execution of a purchase and sale agreement 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 Jeff Smith and second of Wes Poole, the commission voted to approve this ordinance.**

*Discussion:* Dennis Murray said he received a number of complaints stating there are people storing boats and cars on these empty lots which is a code violation. He asked if the city does anything to show what the permit uses are for the property. Amanda Meyers said persons in the city's mow-to-own program are actually already taking care of them and do not have storage issues. If there are vacant lots with storage, a complaint would have to be filed with the Code Enforcement office.

**Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Jeff Smith, Scott Schell, Dennis Murray, Wesley Poole and Naomi Twine, 5. Roll call on the ordinance: Jeff Smith, Scott Schell, Dennis Murray, Wesley Poole and Naomi Twine, 5. The President declared the ordinance passed.**

ITEM #5 – Submitted by Peggy A. Rice, Clerk of Courts

#### PURCHASE OF DESKTOP COMPUTERS

Budgetary Information: There will be no impact to the general fund. The cost for the twelve Optiplex 701DT standard desktop computers is \$15,613.68. The funds used to pay for the computers will be from the court computer fund, Account # 244 9890.

[ORDINANCE NO. 14-049:](#) It is requested an ordinance be passed **authorizing and directing the City Manager to purchase twelve standard desktop computers and associated hardware and software from Dell Marketing LP of Round Rock, Texas, through the State of Ohio Department of Administrative Services cooperative purchasing program for the Sandusky Municipal Court;**

and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

**Upon motion of Naomi Twine and second of Wes Poole, the commission voted to approve this ordinance. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Jeff Smith, Scott Schell, Dennis Murray, Wesley Poole and Naomi Twine, 5. Roll call on the ordinance: Jeff Smith, Scott Schell, Dennis Murray, Wesley Poole and Naomi Twine, 5. The President declared the ordinance passed.**

ITEM #6 – Submitted by Peggy A. Rice, Clerk of Courts

ACCEPTANCE OF EDWARD BYRNE JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT

Budgetary Information: There will be no impact to the general fund. No matching funds are required for this grant. The amount awarded to us will cover our upgrade of software and allow us to join the Ohio Courts Network.

ORDINANCE NO. 14-050: It is requested an ordinance be passed **authorizing and directing the City Manager to accept an Edward Byrne Justice Assistance grant in the amount of \$21,262 from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance for the Sandusky Municipal Court;** and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

**Upon motion of Scott Schell and second of Jeff Smith, the commission voted to approve this ordinance.**

*Discussion:* Wesley Poole said it is always good to accept money. Dennis Murray said as he understands it, this item is for purposes of data sharing throughout Ohio.

**Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Jeff Smith, Scott Schell, Dennis Murray, Wesley Poole and Naomi Twine, 5. Roll call on the ordinance: Jeff Smith, Scott Schell, Dennis Murray, Wesley Poole and Naomi Twine, 5. The President declared the ordinance passed.**

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

AGREEMENT WITH DIRECT ENERGY FOR ELECTRIC SERVICE FOR THE CITY'S LARGEST ACCOUNTS

Budgetary Information: There would be an estimated savings of up to 9% for these electric accounts. The savings over twelve months is estimated to be greater than \$57,000. This savings is larger than the city residential and small commercial accounts aggregation program administered by AMP Ohio which provides a savings of three percent. Programs like these are available to larger users with usage greater than 700,000 kWh per year.

ORDINANCE NO. 14-051: It is requested an ordinance be passed **authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Direct Energy Business, LLC, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, for electric service for the city's largest accounts located in the City of Sandusky for the period of June, 2014 to June, 2015;** 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 Wes Poole, the commission voted to approve this ordinance.**

*Discussion:* Dennis Murray said the city uses a lot of electricity and \$57,000 represents a large savings which means over \$600,000 per year; he would not have known this prior to becoming involved with city business. Hank Solowiej said the sewer plant is the city's largest user.

**Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Jeff Smith, Scott Schell, Dennis Murray, Wesley Poole and Naomi Twine, 5. Roll call on the ordinance: Jeff Smith, Scott Schell, Dennis Murray, Wesley Poole and Naomi Twine, 5. The President declared the ordinance passed.**

ITEM #8 – Submitted by John Orzech, Police Chief

**APPROVAL TO SUBMIT GRANT APPLICATION TO U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FOR BULLETPROOF VESTS**

**Budgetary Information:** The total cost of the fifteen vests is estimated at \$10,125 which will be paid with funds allocated from the Police Department's operating budget. If funds are awarded, the bulletproof vest partnership program will reimburse the city up to fifty percent of the total cost of vests purchased and delivered.

**RESOLUTION NO. 021-14R:** It is requested a resolution be passed **authorizing and directing the City Manager to file an application with the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance for funding through the FY 2014 Bulletproof Vest Partnership program;** and declaring that this resolution shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

**Upon motion of Naomi Twine and second of Wes Poole, the commission voted to approve this resolution.**

*Discussion:* Dennis Murray asked what the life expectancy is for these bulletproof vests and John Orzech said it is five years. Dennis Murray asked if their effectiveness is then reduced and John Orzech said this is when the warranty and recommended use expires.

**Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Jeff Smith, Scott Schell, Dennis Murray, Wesley Poole and Naomi Twine, 5. Roll call on the resolution: Jeff Smith, Scott Schell, Dennis Murray, Wesley Poole and Naomi Twine, 5. The President declared the resolution passed.**

ITEM #9 – Submitted by Rebecca Corrigan, Chief Planner

**SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT WITH ERIE COUNTY GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT**

**Budgetary Information:** The City of Sandusky will award the Erie County General Health District a total of \$18,500 for the 2-1-1 Information & Referral Services for program years FY 2012 and FY 2013. The city will award \$35,000 for the Community Gardening programs throughout the City of Sandusky for 2012 & FY 2013, and \$45,000 for the Community Wellness & Prevention programs for FY 2012 & FY 2013. There is no impact to the city's general fund.

A. **ORDINANCE NO. 14-052:** It is requested an ordinance be passed **authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into a sub recipient agreement with the Erie County General Health District to provide a 2-1-1 Information & Referral Services program and to expand an amount not to exceed \$18,500 from the FY 2012 and FY 2013 Community Development Block Grant funds;** and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

**Upon motion of Wes Poole and second of Jeff Smith, the commission voted to approve this ordinance.**

*Discussion:* Dennis Murray asked Rebecca Corrigan to provide an overview of this item. Rebecca Corrigan said the 2-1-1 program is a service the Erie County Health Department provides through Toledo and Lucas County for residents of Sandusky for referral services. These services can be for housing, food pantries and clothing or to how to get assistance with utility bills. This is a live access service and a live line to call and chat. The goal is to assist 160 residents per year and they will maximize this as they get a ton of calls. Jeff Smith said it is very important for tenants and landlords to know 2-1-1 covers everything and if they cannot help the caller, they will find someone who can.

**Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Jeff Smith, Scott Schell, Dennis Murray, Wesley Poole and Naomi Twine, 5. Roll call on the ordinance: Jeff Smith, Scott Schell, Dennis Murray, Wesley Poole and Naomi Twine, 5. The President declared the ordinance passed.**

B. **ORDINANCE NO. 14-053:** It is requested an ordinance be passed **authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into a sub recipient agreement with the Erie County General Health District to provide a community gardening program and to expend an amount not to exceed**

**\$35,000 from the FY 2012 and FY 2013 Community Development Block Grant funds;** and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

**Upon motion of Scott Schell and second of Naomi Twine, the commission voted to approve this ordinance.**

*Discussion:* Rebecca Corrigan said this is for the community gardening program in targeted neighborhoods which has had good success in Sandusky. The gardens at Churchwell Park and Viewpoint are funded by helping to purchase equipment, crops and a person to help the community build and harvest the garden and ultimately distribute the produce. They would like to expand this throughout the city and we have gotten great feedback from those active with the program and from the Erie County Health Department because it encourages healthy eating and not purchasing processed foods.

**Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Jeff Smith, Scott Schell, Dennis Murray, Wesley Poole and Naomi Twine, 5. Roll call on the ordinance: Jeff Smith, Scott Schell, Dennis Murray, Wesley Poole and Naomi Twine, 5. The President declared the ordinance passed.**

C. [ORDINANCE NO. 14-054](#): It is requested an ordinance be passed **authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into a sub recipient agreement with the Erie County General Health District to provide a community wellness outreach prevention program and to expend an amount not to exceed \$45,000 from the FY 2012 & FY 2013 Community Development Block Grant funds;** and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

**Upon motion of Naomi Twine and second of Jeff Smith, the commission voted to approve this ordinance.**

*Discussion:* Rebecca Corrigan said this is a community program which is very important for the youth of the community as well as the senior citizens. The ECHD has several wellness programs including exercise for senior citizens and a food and veggie club which distributes fresh produce in a creative way to encourage healthy eating. The overall health report card showed a need for dental health care for children in Erie County and they are trying to incorporate a mobile dental unit to ensure youth are getting proper dental care. Dennis Murray said these are good and worthwhile programs but some might ask why the city is spending money on them at this point in time when the budget is stressed. This is CDBG money and there are various categories which have requirements about how the money can be spent. There are public service items for the population which HUD says we have to address in order to be a recipient of these dollars and are part of our federal entitlement.

**Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Jeff Smith, Scott Schell, Dennis Murray, Wesley Poole and Naomi Twine, 5. Roll call on the ordinance: Jeff Smith, Scott Schell, Dennis Murray, Wesley Poole and Naomi Twine, 5. The President declared the ordinance passed.**

ITEM #10 – Submitted by Thomas Schwan, Transit Administrator  
AUTHORIZATION TO PARTICIPATE IN OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S  
COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM

*Budgetary Information:* This action will not impact the city's general fund.

[ORDINANCE NO. 14-055](#): It is requested an ordinance be passed **authorizing the city's participation in the Ohio Department of Transportation's Cooperative Purchasing program;** and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

**Upon motion of Wes Poole and second of Jeff Smith, the commission voted to approve this ordinance.**

*Discussion:* Dennis Murray said this represents the purchase of an additional four buses to replace an aging fleet. The match money was obtained with unanimous support of the Erie County Commissioners and is the result of the one-year piggy back on sales tax and we are happy to be able to receive these funds for this purchase as this is a county-wide effort.

Thomas Schwan thanked Dick Brady and Aaron Klein for their efforts with this. He thanked the Erie County Commissioners for working hand in hand with the city on this project and said it will be nice to replace these vehicles and this will continue to improve the city's fleet and help with contract costs with MV Transportation. Dennis Murray said this is a great example of the partnership we can have with Erie County and we should stop working against each other so much.

**Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Jeff Smith, Scott Schell, Dennis Murray, Wesley Poole and Naomi Twine, 5. Roll call on the ordinance: Jeff Smith, Scott Schell, Dennis Murray, Wesley Poole and Naomi Twine, 5. The President declared the ordinance passed.**

ITEM #11 – Submitted by Thomas Schwan, Transit Administrator  
SANDUSKY TRANSIT SYSTEM JOB ACCESS REVERSE COMMUTE GRANT

Budgetary Information: The state grant, if awarded, will allow Sandusky Transit System to sustain the SPARC service for our residents. The project will have no impact on the city's budget as all monies for the additional service will be provided through State of Ohio JARC grant funding and matching local sources other than city general revenue funds.

RESOLUTION NO. 022-14R: It is requested a resolution be **passed authorizing the filing of a grant application with the Ohio Department of Transportation through the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Transit Administration for the CY 2015 Job Access Reverse Commute program grant for the Sandusky Transit System;** an 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 Naomi Twine, the commission voted to approve this resolution.**

*Discussion:* Dennis Murray asked for an explanation of what we are improving here and what the significance of the JARC grant is to the operations of the STS. Thomas Schwan said these funds are for the three SPARC routes and this has been funded since 2010. We identify areas required which go through low income areas to take people to job sites at \$1 per ride. Dennis Murray said this is one component of funding for STS which comes from the State of Ohio. Thomas Schwan said they are indicating 2015 may be the last year for the JARC grant and will have funding per the formula grant Section 5311 to take the place of JARC funds; the money will still be there, but it will be named something else and will be a different way of funding. Dennis Murray asked if he (Thomas) was as confident today as he was at the last meeting about not looking to the general fund for this and Thomas Schwan said definitely not; we will be in good shape with ODOT and the transit funding through Section 5311.

**Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Jeff Smith, Scott Schell, Dennis Murray, Wesley Poole and Naomi Twine, 5. Roll call on the resolution: Jeff Smith, Scott Schell, Dennis Murray, Wesley Poole and Naomi Twine, 5. The President declared the resolution passed.**

ITEM #12 – Submitted by Thomas Schwan, Transit Administrator

Budgetary Information: The purchase of the four LTV 16 – 2 vehicles will have no impact on the city's budget as all monies for the matching fund are secured through the Erie County Commissioners.

ORDINANCE NO. 14-056: It is requested an ordinance be passed **authorizing and directing the City Manager to purchase four light transit wide body vehicles (LTV 16-2) from Tesco Transportation Equipment Sales Corporation of Oregon, Ohio, and four mobile radios from VASU Communications, Inc., of Avon, Ohio, through the State of Ohio Department of Transportation Cooperative Purchasing program for the Sandusky Transit System;** and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

**Upon motion of Naomi Twine and second of Jeff Smith, the commission voted to approve this ordinance. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Jeff Smith, Scott Schell, Dennis Murray, Wesley Poole and Naomi Twine, 5. Roll call on the ordinance: Jeff Smith, Scott Schell, Dennis Murray, Wesley Poole and Naomi Twine, 5. The President declared the ordinance passed.**

ITEM #13 – Submitted by Jane E. Cullen, P.E.

LEGISLATION FOR LPA FEDERAL LOCAL-LET PROJECT AGREEMENT FOR THE WATER STREET REHABILITATION AND PAVING PROJECT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
Budgetary Information: The preliminary estimate including design and construction is \$1,619,262.48. The MPO will fund eighty percent of the eligible costs in the amount of \$882,713.60. The capital funds will cover \$175,033.88, the sewer funds will cover \$132,262.62 and the water funds will cover \$122,735.38. The city recently received approval for an OPWC grant in the amount of \$306,517 which will cover the remaining expenses.

RESOLUTION NO.023-14R: 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 Water Street rehabilitation and paving project;** and declaring that this resolution shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

**Upon motion of Scott Schell and second of Jeff Smith, the commission voted to approve this resolution.**

*Discussion:* Dennis Murray said this is a lot of money and asked Aaron Klein to provide an overview of the project. Aaron Klein said this is the Water Street project submitted to the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) approximately five years ago. The project design is to be completed at the end of August with bidding in November and construction beginning in April, 2014; it includes resurfacing of Water Street between Shelby and Wayne Streets with new curbs, streetscape in the downtown area, new water lines (6" to 8") and a bicycle path that connects from the far west end of Shelby Street; it will eventually connect on Shoreline Drive. There are a lot of components to this project and it is getting very detailed in how it will go.

**Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Jeff Smith, Scott Schell, Dennis Murray, Wesley Poole and Naomi Twine, 5. Roll call on the resolution: Jeff Smith, Scott Schell, Dennis Murray, Wesley Poole and Naomi Twine, 5. The President declared the resolution passed.**

ITEM #14 - Submitted by Kelly L. Kresser, CMC & Commission Clerk

A request has been received from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control **requesting D5 (Spirituous liquor for on premises consumption only, beer, wine and mixed beverages for on premises, or off premises in original sealed containers, until 2:30 a.m.) and D6 (Sale of intoxicating liquor on Sunday between the hours 10 a.m. or 11 a.m. and midnight) liquor permit transfers for Kaman's Korner, Inc., Sandusky.** It is requested the commission clerk be authorized to notify the Ohio Division of Liquor Control the city has no objection to this request.

**Upon motion of Jeff Smith and second of Wes Poole, the commission voted to authorize the Commission Clerk to notify the Ohio Division of Liquor Control the city has no objection to this request. The President declared the motion passed.**

ITEM #15 - Submitted by Kelly L. Kresser, CMC & Commission Clerk

A request has been received from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control **requesting D5 (Spirituous liquor for on premises consumption only, beer, wine and mixed beverages for on premises, or off premises in original sealed containers, until 2:30 a.m.) and D6 (Sale of intoxicating liquor on Sunday between the hours 10 a.m. or 11 a.m. and midnight) liquor permit transfers from Cedar Fair LP dba TGI Fridays on Pipe Creek to Cedar Fair LP dba Commons Canteen, 1 Cedar Point Drive, Sandusky.** It is requested the commission clerk be authorized to notify the Ohio Division of Liquor Control the city has no objection to this request.



**Upon motion of Jeff Smith and second of Wes Poole, the commission voted to authorize the Commission Clerk to notify the Ohio Division of Liquor Control the city has no objection to this request. The President declared the motion passed.**

#### **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

**Upon motion of Wesley Poole and second of Jeff Smith, the commission voted to accept the following donations for the Sandusky Police Department's K-9 Fund: Dave and Renee Degnan (\$30), Chipotle (\$2,717.39), Brycen Wobser (\$4.52) and Firelands Regional Medical Center (\$250). The President declared the motion passed.**

Don Icsman said the first annual **Touch-A-Truck and National Night Out event** will be taking place in Sandusky on August 5, 2014. John Orzech said Victoria Kurt from the Recreation Division and members of the Fire and Police Departments are hosting National Night Out along with other participating communities throughout the country. This is an opportunity for the citizens and police officers to interact in a positive way and gives an opportunity for the citizens to take back their community. The four points for this event are: 1) to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness and generate support and participation in local anti-drug efforts; 2) strengthen the police spirit and neighborhood community partnership; and, 3) to send a message to criminals that neighborhoods are organizing and fighting back. One of the neighborhoods is planning to line their streets with candles and John Orzech encouraged others to do this, or turn their porch lights on in solidarity. The other component with National Night Out is Touch-A-Truck event where cruisers, fire trucks, city vehicles, a dragster car and other vehicles are made accessible to children along with someone to explain their operation. There will be sponsorships from different organizations wanting to promote themselves such as Serving Our Seniors, Safe Harbour Shelter and church organizations. This will be interactive and John Orzech said he hopes families will attend and will be held in the downtown area from 4 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Don Icsman asked Paul Ricci to follow-up with new information about the former **Wysteria Hill property on Campbell Street**. Paul Ricci provided photographs of the property prior to cleanup which presented significant hazards to the community. He also provided photographs of the limited cleanup which was conducted by the contractor who worked through Easter weekend to abate this hazard.

Don Icsman said the commission has discussed potential **sites to hold upcoming regularly scheduled commission meetings** and after discussing this at some staff meetings, it is hoped the first off-site session may be conducted at the Central Fire Station or the City Service Center so as to minimize any of the problems which could occur (such as recording them with the camera). Upcoming meeting dates are May 12 & 27 and June 9 & 23, and he believes the President has indicated the first or second meeting in July has been tentatively scheduled at Lions Park and is looking for some further thoughts so staff knows what they should be working on. Dennis Murray said he is not anxious to rush this and he likes the idea, but would like to work some of these details out and changings things around can always be a little upsetting. One big issue is the camera and he understands the existing camera is on its last legs. Dennis Murray said he needs to follow up with Don Rumbutis and Kelly Kresser to see what these issues are before spending a lot of money trying to make it work. Don Icsman said there should not be problems with setting these up logistically, nor is there an expense, but he has spoken about access which is why the fire station or service center would reduce issues with accessibility. The only other significant cost would be the issue with the camera and televising the meetings and he will await further directions.

Don Icsman said **each of the unions negotiated a 1.5% cost of living allowance and there are approximately 19 administrative/non-bargaining unit employees who are not represented and their salaries were not adjusted**. If approved, the total 2014 annual impact of adjustments for these 19 employees is \$12,500 to the general fund according to Hank Solowiej; Don Icsman recommends authorizing this adjustment for these employees. Don Icsman said this is normally taken care of at the end of each year initially through a review process with the Charter Officers

and Mayor; if they agree, a recommendation is made to members of the Audit/Finance Committee who ultimately make a recommendation to the City Commissioners. This did not happen for CY 2014 and he has been asked about it and certainly thinks these are the people who we count on the most for what is done as Charter Officers; these employees are most heavily counted on to administer the city and this is why he is recommending this and does not feel it has significant financial impact to the city. Don Icsman said he realizes where we are, especially with the fire fighters, but feels this is justified and would be happy to answer any questions about it. Naomi Twine asked who usually makes up the Benefits Committee and Don Icsman said it is the three Charter Officers and the Commission President. Naomi Twine asked why this did not happen last year and Don Icsman said he does not know why it did not happen but it usually does so everything is taken care of prior to January. Hank Solowiej said he has spoken to Dick Brady who is the commission liaison to the Audit/Finance Committee as well as Al Nickles who is the chairperson of the Audit/Finance Committee and they are both supportive of this recommendation and understand the situation we are in. Don Icsman said this should occur toward the fall each year for non-bargaining employees and theoretically there will be another meeting for 2015 before the end of this year. Dennis Murray said he does not see the point in convening this committee at this point if this is the recommendation made; Don Icsman said the three charter officers met about this and have discussed it.

**Upon motion of Wesley Poole and second of Scott Schell the commission voted to approve a 1.5% pay increase for the non-bargaining unit employees and ratifying retroactive pay to January 1, 2014. The President declared the motion passed.**

Don Icsman said **Fire Chief Paul Ricci has made a recommendation to appoint Captain James R. Green to be the Acting Fire Chief** upon his (Paul's) retirement and until such time as a permanent appointment can be made by the Fire Chief Selection Committee. Captain Green is a 24-year veteran of the Sandusky Fire Department and is the ranking senior officer with the experience, education and training to provide seamless leadership for the City of Sandusky. Captain Green has been supervising operations in Paul's absence for the last four years and asked to be given consideration for this appointment. Dennis Murray asked Don Icsman if he intended to act on this recommendation and Don Icsman indicated he does. Dennis Murray congratulated Captain James Green for stepping up and serving in this role. Don Icsman said it has been a pleasure working with Paul Ricci and helped to make him look smart, appreciates him and will miss him.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

None.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Dennis Murray said he will be on the porch at the corner of **Parish Street and Columbus Avenue at 3 p.m. tomorrow as a resident invited him to view the traffic at this intersection where the traffic light was damaged and removed.** He is appreciative of this invitation and the city will do the right thing and find the correct solution. Dennis Murray said he would like to use this to stimulate a larger discussion about where the use of stop lights and/or stop signs is best. First and foremost, this is a community about the people who live here, walk here and want to be safe here and in many instances, streets are not pedestrian friendly. Scott Schell asked if a cost has been prepared to replace this signal and Aaron Klein said he contacted a vendor about this but has not yet received an estimate. Once the snow melted and the vendor went to the site, he decided he did not want to do the work and another supplier was contacted.

Dennis Murray said **applications are being accepted for the position of City Manager** and the deadline is April 30; Kelly Kresser will be distributing the resumes after this date. Dennis Murray said he would like the commissioners to take the weekend to review the applications and meet early next week in Executive Session to determine the next step. Dennis Murray suggested holding a special meeting on Monday, May 5 at 5 p.m. to discuss the applications

(Note: This was later changed to 6:30 p.m. to accommodate the schedules of the commissioners). Dennis Murray said the staff need not attend, only the city commissioners.

### **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

Sharon Johnson, 1139 Fifth Street, asked what happened with the legislation to change the makeup of the commission from seven members to five members. Dennis Murray said this needed more work and it will come back. Sharon Johnson asked if Nicole Ard left with any kind of a settlement and Dennis Murray said the commission would vote on something like this. Sharon Johnson asked the status of the lawsuit with Erie County about the water and Dennis Murray said there have been discussions to find common ground and the nature of litigation is to settle or go to trial and until one or the other happens, he cannot say. It is scheduled for trial in June, but this is most likely to be postponed by the court. Sharon Johnson said the commission is asking a lot of staff to host meetings off-site and this has not been well thought out; some places have limited seating and a certain number of persons who can fit in a small room according to the Fire Code and according to ADA accessibility; the commission meeting should be held in a professional setting and she does not know how the camera equipment will be set up at another site. There will also be gas and mileage for staff members to get to the sites and this will be too demanding for staff. Sharon Johnson thanked Paul Ricci for assistance provided and hopes he is turning over the part of his job involving Code Enforcement so that someone can stay with it.

Matt Morgan, 1003 West Osborne Street, said he likes the idea, if viable, to use commission meetings as a way to step outside and showcase the city. He believes logistical issues will need to be worked out, but it will be positive overall. Matt Morgan has not been to the greenhouse himself, but if due diligence is put forward, the city can ensure there is accessibility and accommodations for technology. There is new audio equipment to invest in and mobility could be kept in mind. This is a good time for everyone in the city to think about changing from a commission of seven members down to five members. A ward system may also be the best change although he does not know standards and practices from other cities. Others should consider this and it will open up a discussion for everyone to get involved and make ourselves work better with each other. Matt Morgan has been happy with accessibility and likes Dennis Murray has been calling on staff to further explain issues rather than simply voting on them. He appreciates asking people who are professionals.

Kathy Dickerson, 814 Sycamore Line, said she might be late, but she is tired of potholes in the streets. She asked what is wrong and why they are not being fixed as they are terrible and she has never seen them so terrible in her life. Dennis Murray said they have been getting reports about the number of potholes being filled and at the last meeting this number was over 7,000. All of the cities in Northern Ohio are struggling with this and Cleveland has had to bring in contractors to fill potholes. Aaron Klein said we had issues with switching from cold mix to hot mix and there has been talk about having Northern Ohio declared as a disaster area and can perhaps obtain federal funding through FEMA. This has had a terrible impact on our infrastructure and we all share the pain. Aaron Klein said the city has purchased hot mix over the past couple of weeks and crews are continuing to fill potholes. He does not have updated numbers or costs but said last year's numbers have been exceeded and we are trying to keep up with this issue. Kathy Dickerson asked if the city has enough employees and Aaron Klein said we could get to more potholes or paving with more employees, materials and vehicles. Kathy Dickerson said she recently watched city crews fill two potholes on one street and moved on when there were more to be filled. Aaron Klein said they were doing the potholes in the worst or highest traffic areas or in travel lanes and crews may have ridden past smaller potholes because of this reason. We now have hot mix for two buckets and other communities are competing for this and we are getting to the time where our equipment needs some repair. This is always an issue and we do the best with what we have. Kathy Dickerson congratulated Paul Ricci and asked him to enjoy his retirement. Kathy Dickerson said she would like to sing at the next election for Dennis Murray. Aaron Klein asked the public to use the Pothole Reporting Line on the city's home page.

Vicki Bird, 2114 Wilbert Street, apologized for her behavior at the last commission meeting as she was very upset. She thanked the city for cleaning the former Wisteria Hill property on Campbell Street and asked if she can get some of the bricks. Dennis Murray said he does not recommend this. Vicki Bird asked what it will cost to clear the rest of the debris and Dennis Murray said the danger has been abated but we do not yet know what it will cost to complete this. Vicki Bird asked if donations can be made to put toward the expenses and Dennis Murray said these monies can be turned into the Finance Director for a specific purpose. Vicki Bird thanked the city for coming to Olds Street and cleaning out furniture and trash; this is not the only site where people are dumping. A video camera has been mentioned, but this costs money. Vicki Bird said she is concerned about the loss of the traffic light at Parish Street and Columbus Avenue. Motorists heading east on Parish and turning either north or south on Columbus Avenue have to drive into the intersection to see if there is traffic when vehicles are parked on the west side of Columbus Avenue; she hopes it will not have to take a drastic accident to resolve this as it will continue to get busier and busier. This is a direct route into and out of downtown Sandusky. Vicki Bird asked the speed limit in this area and John Orzech said it is 35 miles per hour. Dennis Murray said he never meant to interfere with what the experts are doing and still has questions about a three-way stop or a four-way stop versus a traffic light. He has been through this intersection several times since this started. A lot of times people do not like paying taxes, but she would rather see admission tax raised than income tax. With all of the potholes and bike week coming up, she is quite concerned about people getting hurt. She would like this to be a safe city. Vicki Bird thanked Paul Ricci for his service and commitment to the city.

**Upon motion of Jeff Smith and second of Scott Schell, the commission voted to adjourn at 6:30 p.m. The President declared the motion passed.**

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Kelly L. Kresser, CMC  
Clerk of the City Commission

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Dennis E. Murray, Jr.  
President of the City Commission