

Dennis Murray called the meeting to order at 5 p.m. after **recognizing all U.S. Veterans and the Invocation**, given by Jeff Smith, and the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

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

City staff present: John Orzech - Police Chief, Jim Green – Acting Fire Chief, Jane Cullen - Engineer, Don Rumbutis - IT, Don Icsman - Law Director, Hank Solowiej – Finance Director and Kelly Kresser - Commission Clerk.

Upon motion of Jeff Smith and second of Dick Brady, the commission voted to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2014, city commission meeting and suspend the oral reading. The President declared the motion passed.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (*agenda items only*)

Sharon Johnson, 1139 Fifth Street, asked if Item #6 pertains to the lawsuit with Erie County regarding the purchase or sale of water, and asked if this closes the case. Sharon Johnson said she is concerned about the employment agreement with Eric Wobser (Item #7), specifically, the money perks and whether the city's budget can support this. Sharon Johnson asked what the fourteen years of service entails and said she is concerned about the house buy back in Section 10.

Tim Schwanger, 362 Sheffield Way, asked which streets will be paved in the Urban Paving program (Item #3). Tim Schwanger asked the commission to discuss how the water contract with Erie County (Item #6) will affect city residents. Tim Schwanger said he is also concerned about the buyback of the home in the contract for the new City Manager as the commission has not been able to select the right fit for this position in the past. This agreement is one-sided and he had heard good things about previous managers, including Matt Kline and Nicole Ard. Tim Schwanger said he wishes Eric Wobser well and believes in him.

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 MAY 12, 2014

PROPOSAL FOR CHARTER AMENDMENT ON NOVEMBER, 2014 BALLOT

ORDINANCE NO. 14-058: It is requested an ordinance be passed **providing for the submission to the electors of the City of Sandusky of proposed amendments to the Charter of the City of Sandusky.**

Upon motion of Dick Brady and second of Wesley Poole, the commission voted to approve this ordinance at second reading.

Discussion: Julie Farrar said she is not able to support this at second reading as after discussing it with citizens and looking at other communities, there are communities of the same size with seven commissioners. There will be a Charter Review committee next year and she would like to think the commission could reconsider this with them in 2015 and if they think it should be placed on the ballot, the city could do it then and perhaps have other issues on the ballot at the same time. Dennis Murray said issues placed on the ballot are a' la carte and you pay for each separately. The commission has the complete ability to say we will not support what the Charter Review committee has recommended and most of the suggestions made in the past did not make it to the ballot. A commission-led charter change made sense to consider. Dennis Murray clarified this does not include a pay raise for the commissioners as this stays flat. This is long overdue and in order, but is not part of this provision. This does not address term limits in

any way. Wesley Poole said he concurs with what has been said and the cost to place this on the ballot is divided up amongst other ballot issues and it would be less expensive to do this now rather than waiting until May. Ultimately, the Charter Review has several times made recommendations which the Commissioners have chosen to not place items on the ballot. Wesley Poole said we should have this full discussion with the community and believes reducing the commission from seven to five members will give the citizens more input into what is going on at the commission table. It is one thing to suggest there may be more representation with more commissioners, but this would mean less representation because there is less impact on the outcome. If you look at past elections, the last two seats were rather easy to get as the number of votes to have gotten elected were significantly less than the primary seats. If this were changed to five, this gives an understanding of who can get elected with a minimal number of votes. There is not as much of an impact on the decisions. When there are seven persons making decisions, we tend to regress on decisions which is why we end up with average decisions or often no one having any comment whatsoever, they follow the crowd. Wesley Poole said these are his opinions and observations since being a commissioner for two years and having been a member of three or four charter review committees, and attending commission meetings during his adult life. Sometimes it is counter intuitive to think there are seven commissioners to call upon for representation, but people do not have this much impact on them as commissioners vote their conscience based upon the small minority of people they may represent as it does not take many votes to get elected for the last two seats. Jeff Smith said we are trying to reinvent the wheel here and he is still against reducing from seven to five commissioners and thinks we need representation, but does not want to repeat what he said at the last meeting. Dick Brady said the wonderful thing about democracy and about this process is the commission does not have the final say. Democracy gives the final say to the electorate and this is what is being decided tonight. We are not sealing the fate of Sandusky with five commissioners or seven commissioners, we are saying to the electorate to make the choice. Dick Brady said we owe this to the constituents.

Roll call on the ordinance: Scott Schell, Naomi Twine, Dennis Murray, Dick Brady and Wesley Poole, 5. Nays: Jeff Smith and Julie Farrar, 2. The President declared the ordinance passed at second reading.

ITEM #2 – Submitted by Troy Vaccaro, Fleet Maintenance Chief Foreman

PASSED AT FIRST READING MAY 12, 2014

DISPOSAL OF ONE VEHICLE AND THREE ASSETS

Budgetary Information: There is no budgetary impact. The proceeds from the sales will be deposited into the Department that was financially responsible for the asset.

ORDINANCE NO. 14-059: It is requested an ordinance be passed **authorizing and directing the City Manager to dispose of a vehicle and miscellaneous personal property as having become unnecessary and unfit for city use pursuant to Section 25 of the city charter.**

Upon motion of Jeff Smith and second of Julie Farrar, the commission voted to approve this ordinance at second reading.

Roll call on the ordinance: Scott Schell, Naomi Twine, Jeff Smith, Dennis Murray, Julie Farrar, Dick Brady and Wesley Poole, 7. The President declared the ordinance passed at second reading.

ITEM #3 – Submitted by Aaron M. Klein, P.E.

AUTHORIZATION FOR 2014 URBAN PAVING PROGRAM

Budgetary Information: The city has already issued a check to the State of Ohio in the amount of \$201,560. The balance of the cost is \$32,120 and will also be paid with Community Development Block grant funds.

ORDINANCE NO. 14-060: It is requested an ordinance be passed **authorizing and directing the City Manager to expend additional funds for the Ohio Department of Transportation's 2014 urban paving program project in the amount of \$32,120;** 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 Wesley Poole, the commission voted to approve this ordinance.

Discussion: Jane Cullen said the Ohio Department of Transportation will prepare the bids and all inspections for this project and the bids came in slightly higher than the engineer's estimate of cost. The streets included for paving are: Columbus Avenue from Washington Street to Hayes Avenue and Milan Road from 48th Street to Cleveland Road.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Scott Schell, Naomi Twine, Jeff Smith, Dennis Murray, Julie Farrar, Dick Brady and Wesley Poole, 7. Roll call on the ordinance: Scott Schell, Naomi Twine, Jeff Smith, Dennis Murray, Julie Farrar, Dick Brady and Wesley Poole, 7. The President declared the ordinance passed.

ITEM #4 – Submitted by John Orzech, Police Chief

GRANT APPLICATION FOR PORTABLE RADIOS AND ACCESSORIES

Budgetary Information: The total estimated cost for 46 new Kenwood NX-300 portable radios and accessories is \$40,538.88. If awarded, the grant would provide \$30,404.16 (75%) of the cost and the required matching share of \$10,134.73 (25%) would be paid with capital funds.

RESOLUTION NO. 025-14R: It is requested a resolution be passed **approving the submission of a grant application to the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services for funding through the FY 2014 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance 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 Julie Farrar and second of Jeff Smith, the commission voted to approve this resolution.

Discussion: Julie Farrar said the deadline for this grant is May 30 and this is the reason it is being passed under Section 14. John Orzech said we are looking at replacing old radios within the patrol division and the city used to have IT staff familiar with the current radios and could repair them at a substantial cost savings. Without this, we must use VASU to repair these radios and it costs a substantial amount of money to make the repairs. The new radios will have safety features which are very important and there was an incident just last week where a police officer was jumped and he was not able to get on his radio. These radios will have the feature where a button can be pushed and everyone will know where the officer is. This grant is an opportunity.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Scott Schell, Naomi Twine, Jeff Smith, Dennis Murray, Julie Farrar, Dick Brady and Wesley Poole, 7. Roll call on the resolution: Scott Schell, Naomi Twine, Jeff Smith, Dennis Murray, Julie Farrar, Dick Brady and Wesley Poole, 7. The President declared the resolution passed.

ITEM #5 – Submitted by John Orzech, Police Chief

AGREEMENT FOR EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT TO PURCHASE TASERS

Budgetary Information: The funds that are available through the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance grant program totaling \$12,398 for an eligible joint allocation and these funds, if awarded, will only be utilized for the X 26P Tasers with accessories. Any extra funds required will be taken from the Sandusky Police Department's operating budget. This grant requires no matching funds.

ORDINANCE NO. 14-061: It is requested an ordinance be passed **authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the board of Erie County Commissioners for the reallocation of Justice Assistance Grant funds and, if awarded, authorizing the City Manager to execute any required agreements; approving the submission of a grant application by the City of Sandusky on behalf of Erie County and the City of Sandusky to the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance for funding through the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance grant program**

FY 2014 local solicitation; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: John Orzech said this is a grant the city shares with the Erie County Sheriff's Office each year and this year's application is to replace unserviceable Tasers which are close to the end of their life expectancy. There are currently eighteen Tasers and there will be a sufficient amount purchased to allow all of the officers to carry one for Ohio Bike Week and during weeks where there are a lot of off-duty assignments. This substantially reduces officer injuries when wrestling with people. Dick Brady said he heard the story about the police officer and that the officer won.

Upon motion of Scott Schell and second of Wesley Poole, the commission voted to approve this ordinance. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Scott Schell, Naomi Twine, Jeff Smith, Dennis Murray, Julie Farrar, Dick Brady and Wesley Poole, 7. Roll call on the ordinance: Scott Schell, Naomi Twine, Jeff Smith, Dennis Murray, Julie Farrar, Dick Brady and Wesley Poole, 7. The President declared the ordinance passed.

ITEM #7

EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH ERIC WOBSEY FOR THE POSITION OF CITY MANAGER [ORDINANCE NO. 14-062](#): It is requested an ordinance be passed **approving and authorizing the execution of an employment agreement between the City of Sandusky and Eric L. Wobsey;** and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Upon motion of Dick Brady and second of Julie Farrar, the commission voted to approve this ordinance.

Discussion: Naomi Twine said she will vote no on this ordinance as she disagrees with Item #10 in the contract regarding the purchase of the City Manager's home if there is a time he would be terminated. It is not in the best interest of the taxpayers to purchase this home. Dennis Murray said he has discussed this with Naomi Twine and respects and appreciates her perspective, although his is different. If and when the city might come to this time (we are getting it right and we will not find ourselves in this position) but if we do, we will be exchanging cash for a hard asset. The difference is we, as a community, have the ability and the time to wait to liquidate this asset, where an outgoing manager would not have to do that. This contract does not provide for salary continuation as is the case with some kinds of positions and it does not have a cost to the city. Naomi Twine said she understands this, but thinks if we were in this situation now and had a City Manager who was being terminated after just getting through trying to salvage layoffs for firefighters, pave streets, trim bushes and trees that these types of issues would send the wrong message to taxpayers. Having to try and settle a city manager's termination by having to sell a house does not seem like a good decision. Julie Farrar said she does not have a problem with this because this commission would probably think harder and look longer into doing what they can to retain an employee if they had to buy back a house. Julie Farrar said, in her opinion, if we have to spend taxpayer dollars to pay for a house for someone we are going to fire, we would be more apt to work with them and it would be good for the city manager and good for the commission to work together. Jeff Smith said at first he had a problem with this, but when he realized we were going through a City Manager every 2.8 – 2.9 years, it is time the commission showed the city manager and the citizens they mean business. The next commission cannot come in and just get rid of someone simply because they do not like them. It is time to invest in a City Manager who will invest in our community. Jeff Smith said he was against firing Nicole Ard but is extremely excited about working with Eric Wobsey. At first he did not like this, but thinks it puts everyone in check and stated the city can go for four years without firing a City Manager, hopefully a lot longer. Wesley Poole said he will vote yes for this contract and recognizes it is an agreement with two different sides trying to reach a happy medium. Wesley Poole said he is not in favor of the incentive compensation portion of the contract which does not start for two years and he may not be here then. Wesley Poole said in a civil service community environment, government incentives for individuals are inappropriate and we are not here for profit; providing profit for

people doing good work is not something he supports. Wesley Poole said as he reads through this contract and thinks about what he is looking for in terms of ways the community works together, this manager cannot be successful without the work of everyone involved, including the guys who cut the grass. He does not see any place where we are going to identify or say we should give someone extra money because they did something to make this better. There are four charter officers who have a significant impact into the success of the city and of each other and he is opposed to incentives. With regard to the buyback of the house, this candidate is extremely competent and has shown through his actions what kind of results can be attained and he does not anticipate firing him in the next four years. For this reason, and because he currently is in a very nice situation with Ohio City, Inc., Eric Wobser is quite successful, lives in a great community, and it is a risk for him coming here trying to duplicate what he has done at Ohio City. Wesley Poole said extending this offer in case this does not work out to our satisfaction is reasonable. Wesley Poole said he does not expect the city to buy back this house, but if we do, it will own it and will resell it and get our money out of it. Dennis Murray said the fourteen year provision puts Eric Wobser into the existing administrative code regarding his vacation time and at some point, he picks up additional time based upon the fourteen years and this is quite common for department head hires. Since they have not been here the entire time, they will automatically get this credit. Dennis Murray said the comments made by Wesley Poole are astute and wise and he has cautioned against a situation in which the charter officers are essentially in conflict with each other and thinks the commission should be very cautious of this as they approach the incentive compensation. Very candidly, Dennis Murray said the incentive compensation was something which he in particular found attractive and thinks it is something of a best practice these days, but the commission and Eric Wobser will have to work this out and to be careful to not set up conflicts. Dennis Murray said "right on" to Jeff Smith regarding his comments and if we have learned anything as a commission and a community it is to stop sniping. All seven commissioners believe the new city manager will be a game changer for the community and are prepared to block and tackle for him because with change will come rejection. There are a lot of people in this community who do not like change and who like certain things just the way they are, but there will have to be change for Sandusky to be successful. This may be in the form of one-way streets, more stop signs and less stop lights. He does not know what the issues will be, but it will be important for this commission to give the reasoning to the City Manager and then get behind him in making decisions. The commission has been making this point and it is a great one to make and Dennis Murray thanked Jeff Smith.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Scott Schell, Jeff Smith, Dennis Murray, Julie Farrar, Dick Brady and Wesley Poole, 6. Naomi Twine, 1. Roll call on the ordinance: Scott Schell, Jeff Smith, Dennis Murray, Julie Farrar, Dick Brady and Wesley Poole, 6. Nays: Naomi Twine, 1. The President declared the ordinance passed.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Upon motion of Jeff Smith and second of Julie Farrar, the commission voted to accept the following donations for the K-9 Fund: Kimberly Dennis (\$50), Carol Grubb (\$20), Glass Guys (\$1,100), Sandusky Amvets (\$100) and the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office (\$1,700 in-kind donation for K-9 compartment/insert). The President declared the motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Don Icsman said he did not want to take away from the moment at the press conference last week, but wanted to amplify about the **Police Department and the closure of DJ's on Cleveland Road and the quality law enforcement** in the City of Sandusky. Don Icsman complimented the cooperation with other agencies and the Prosecutor's Office which is terrific and said it does not surprise him how hard these people work. The nature of the work they do is difficult and despite rising crime and the high number of incidents they deal with, they do have finite resources. Dennis Murray expressed appreciation for the help from other cooperative agencies who showed up to help and said it speaks to the brotherhood and

sisterhood of law enforcement and this was a tremendous showing of support when we needed it.

Jeff Smith said he was at a store today and found a copy of **United Church Homes Spirit Magazine and there was a story about Ruth Parker** and said this was a very nice article about all she does for the community.

NEW BUSINESS

Dennis Murray **thanked the men and women in the Police and Fire Departments for work they have done during the past two weeks.** The situation at the former DJ's on Cleveland Road has been a menace, but a resolution has been found, and we are all hoping this does not pop up someplace else in the community. There has been some criticism for why the police did not get into this establishment sooner, but one of the things we have to remember is we live in a democracy with civil and constitutional rights and police officers, absent a liquor license where inspections are part of this, people have a right to gather privately and be free from police walking in and it is sometimes difficult to balance these rights. The police department has been patient and Dennis Murray said he is very sorry injuries occurred, but he trusts the people responsible will eventually be prosecuted. Dennis Murray also thanked the Police Department for identifying one suspect and apprehending another in the murder case for George Martin. Great work!

Dennis Murray thanked the workers at Oakland Cemetery and Memorial Park for their efforts to make the cemetery absolutely beautiful for Memorial Day and said the public appreciates this.

Upon motion of Dick Brady and second of Scott Schell, the commission voted to hold an executive session regarding personnel, police department. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Scott Schell, Naomi Twine, Jeff Smith, Dennis Murray, Julie Farrar, Dick Brady and Wesley Poole, 7. The President declared the motion passed.

Upon motion of Dick Brady and second of Scott Schell, the commission voted to hold an executive session regarding pending litigation, sale of water. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Scott Schell, Naomi Twine, Jeff Smith, Dennis Murray, Julie Farrar, Dick Brady and Wesley Poole, 7. The President declared the motion passed.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

John Hartman, 533 East Perkins Avenue, thanked the Veterans in the room. John Hartman said he has heard things leading to a negative direction regarding the house buy back section of the contract with the city manager and said to inspire, be positive and encourage people and help them to succeed. John Hartman said there was a recent football camp sponsored by The Legends Foundation and stated this will be presented at Strobel Field at Cedar Point Stadium on June 7 from 4 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Sharon Johnson, 1139 Fifth Street, said she agrees with Naomi Twine regarding the section in the contract about buying back the City Manager's house and she hopes Eric Wobser will be a good city manager, but the city has given him a lot of perks. The city should pay him a little less and add these as his salary could amount to \$168,000 at the end of his term. The city is trying to market a tax increase, but this is a kick in the teeth when we are short firemen and then do something like this. Sharon Johnson asked the impact to the budget and Dennis Murray said Audience Participation is time to comment as she wishes, and he believes the contract could rise to \$136,000 as this is where it maxes out.

Mark Norman, 1016 Third Street, said he had the opportunity to meet Eric Wobser two years ago and said he plays in the big league and knows what the best practices are. The city needed to find someone worthy of Sandusky's future and he believes this is the man who can move us

forward and the city should do what it can to make this happen. Eric Wobser is taking a risk with us and we should do what we can for him. The professionalism in which the meetings are conducted has risen and he is inspired by it. The city has an opportunity for citizens to take a leap of faith and be positive.

Michael Green, 1621 South Larchmont Drive, said he has lived in his home for 22 years and it should not have taken the amount of time it did to close DJ's on Cleveland Road. He understands there are rules, regulations and laws, but the article written in the Sandusky Register stated Mr. Ruta's (the owner) consultant was the one who came up with "such activities both illegal and completely unacceptable resulting in danger to patrons and neighbors" and if asked why Mr. Ruta's attorney can pull up these laws but the city's attorney could not apply the same ones in 2010 when this establishment opened. There have been 120 complaints in 2014 alone and Michael Green said this is unacceptable and he is a taxpayer; Larchmont Drive is in Sunnyside Acres where people have worked all their lives and have nothing to do with this establishment. Their lives were put at risk because it was not closed down. A bullet has no eyes and has no name and he cannot sit back and applaud for a job that should have been done four years ago. Michael Green said he understands members of the police department have a tough job, but it should not have taken this long for anything to have been done to this establishment. The people in the community of Sandusky deserve better and he would like to know if it was because of the seven people who were shot who closed the establishment down, or if it was the phone call from the CEO of Cedar Point. It should not have come down to this; the first gunshot should have closed it down. There was a house rattled by bullets on Ashburn Drive where three children, a mother and a father lay asleep and if it had been a few inches closer, would have hit one of the children. Dennis Murray said Mr. Green is right and the community deserves better and he thinks everyone wants to strive for the city to do better, but he is not aware of a call made by the Cedar Point CEO about this establishment. Dennis Murray said part of the issue is a lack of manpower. The city does not have enough people and there is a criminal nuisance ordinance on the books, but it takes time to put this together. All this does is help to go through a laborious process, organized by a lawyer, to give the right to say if police or other safety forces have to show up at this property, it can be charged back to the property owner. This does not address the immediate question of public safety, it merely puts the costs to someone. As a community, the city should look at how to use this criminal nuisance code more effectively. We are looking at these options and although we do not have an answer right now, Mr. Green is right to be outraged. Dick Brady told Michael Green this call was not made by the CEO of Cedar Point, it was made by him (Dick Brady). Dick Brady said he made this call five minutes after being advised there was a shooting incident on Sunday morning and he walked down his street to interact with a local attorney who lives near him as he knew he represented the property owner. Five minutes after engaging the attorney in conversation, he agreed to call his client and insist the property be closed down and this was less than three hours after the shootings occurred. Dick Brady said he has been a commissioner for 146 days and if he has been remiss in not making this call sooner, he apologizes to Michael Green and to the community. This will not happen again under his watch and he makes a promise to everyone in the city to not sit on his hands and to do everything he can to support the police department by making calls and getting engaged. This is the commission's responsibility and if it has been shirked in the past, it will not be in the future. Michael Green thanked Dick Brady and said he had made previous calls about shootings and he should not have to worry about his wife driving to work on Roosevelt Street and getting hit by a stray bullet. This establishment would not have stayed open in the City of Sandusky and should not have regardless of how much money Carl Ruta has. Michael Green said he believes the community and commission body representing citizens should get on one accord. There is a lot of nonsense and unnecessary violence that goes on in this city but we have to say enough is enough. There is a lot of racial profiling going on and he has seen it and this is why he can say it. Every young black man walking around with a hoodie on or a backpack or headphones is not a thug and should not be treated as such. If you take a book and look at the cover, you do not know what is inside the book and people should not be judged by the color of their skin. The book needs to be opened and look at the table of contents to see what it entails; Michael Green asked people to stop and see him for who he is and for his character, not for what he looks like or who you think he may be.

Timothy Work, 517 42nd Street, said he is meeting with the South Central neighborhood block watch group and they have had a strong group in existence for 20+ years and are seeking funds to purchase signage displaying their block watch with window stickers and dummy cameras. Timothy Work said he spoke with Rebecca Corrigan and John Orzech and there may be money available for this purpose through CDBG funds. Timothy Work said they are trying to get more neighborhood watches going and sometimes a small amount of money would be helpful for flyers and things like this. Timothy Work asked for an update regarding code enforcement and the crime free rental program. Timothy Work said the neighborhood has not been treated fairly near DJ's on Cleveland Road and if what really triggered the solution was the owner's name being printed in the paper, perhaps we could learn a lesson from this. We list restaurants in violation and beaches which are not healthy and this is something to think about. Timothy Work said Ohio City is a great place and he is looking forward to working with Eric Wobser.

Wesley Poole said Michael Green made some good points; we do not know whether the police department is profiling because we have not seen any statistics which support this and cannot deny it one way or the other. We do have a new records management program which he hopes can provide this information so we can show one way or the other what the truth is. Wesley Poole said there is enough anecdotal information from African Americans which suggests justification for the charge they are being profiled. Wesley Poole said he has had discussions with John Orzech about things that would give this impression. Profiling in general is non-productive; officers spending time on any group that are not suspect or criminals is time they are not spending working on actual people who are criminals. Going forward, Wesley Poole said he hopes John Orzech can provide the data which justifies the way business is being done and if he finds there are some changes needing to be made in the way business is done, then we need to make the necessary changes. Dennis Murray said if someone does feel they are the victim of racial profiling, the city has a Human Relations Commission and encouraged them to file a complaint which can be aired and vetted; Naomi Twine is the commission liaison.

Kevin Wiesler, 320 West Parish Street, said for many years Parish Street has needed speed bumps between Columbus Avenue and Campbell Street as motorists are speeding to and from the U.S. Post Office and Job and Family Services office. There is a lot more traffic and people speed constantly even with speed limit signage in their yard. Mrs. Wiesler said her dog was hit and killed one month ago by a hit and run driver. There should be speed bumps on both blocks between Columbus Avenue and Campbell Street or larger signage regarding the speed limit and asked how this can happen. Dick Brady said he will coordinate this between John Orzech and Aaron Klein.

Don Icsman said the Police and Law Departments have utilized every tool available regarding the situation with this establishment on Cleveland Road and this is not a unique situation; the city spent a lot of time in court with a similar one. People need to understand what did happen was because of the conscientiousness of both the lawyer and the property owner. It may have turned out this way eventually, but it would have taken years and a lot of time and effort. The city has the tools, but Dick Brady tapped into the owner. John Orzech had also met the owner and the previous city manager, but did not get anywhere. Whatever Dick Brady was able to do made this process speed up. We would have gotten to the finish line eventually, but this sped it up and Don Icsman said he wants everyone to know how fortunate we are Dick Brady and Dennis Murray were able to accomplish this because it stopped the problem. There are certain things which have been explained such as the lack of a liquor license with this type of an establishment; it is what the owner will allow on their property and we really do not have much because of due process and protections provided for with the law. This may prey on the conscience of a private property owner and this was his feeling all along. The city had tried and tried to make this plea through the police department but it did not work. There were issues that needed to be cleaned up on the property but it was not done sooner because of having the lack of necessary tools; we do have those. Don Icsman said these things take time, but this was resolved because of the intervention of the commissioners, the owner and the lawyer stepping up. John Orzech said he would like to set the record straight as well and will not have someone accuse the police department of not doing something which they have been trying to do for a long time. There are 44 officers in the department who he (John Orzech) is responsible for and

he has had to send them out 150+ times, 20+ times this year alone, to face bullets every day and this is not something he takes lightly. He knows people who live in this area and his own son responds to these calls every weekend because he works for the Sheriff. John Orzech said he and members of his department do care what is going on and it is the people in the community who need to step up and quit letting these people go to these kinds of places – their grandsons and granddaughters and others – the community needs to step up and say they are not going to take it anymore. The Police Department has done everything they can possibly do to shut this place down and he (John Orzech) has met with the owner twice, and for anyone to insinuate he or his department does not care about the community or officers is senseless.

Jennifer Brindley, 547 50th Street, said there is a sewer problem at 50th Street and S.R. 250. Every time it rains, sewage dumps into her basement and she has to dump bleach into it while trying to sell her house. She thanked the commissioners who talked with citizens at a recent spaghetti dinner benefit at the Sail In and said the police department is doing a wonderful job and John Orzech is a fair man. Jennifer Brindley said the fire fighters who helped her at the benefit were real go-getters.

The President announced a recess of the regular session at 6:17 p.m. Two executive sessions were held beginning at 6:30 p.m. The President announced adjournment of the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

Kelly L. Kresser, CMC
Clerk of the City Commission

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