

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

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

City staff present: John Orzech - Police Chief, Dave Degnan – Fire Chief, Aaron Klein – Engineer, Rebecca Corrigan – Chief Planner, Don Icsman - Law Director, Hank Solowiej – Finance Director, Kelly Kresser - Commission Clerk and Eric Wobser – City Manager.

Upon motion of Jeff Smith and second of Dick Brady, the commission voted to approve the minutes of the July 28, 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, said the grant for the land bank program is very restrictive (Item #2) and is very apprehensive about it and these properties will be titled with Erie County for three years and then demolished. This only allows \$25,000 per property and this is low and asked what would be done if there were lead paint to clean up. Another concern is whether the county land bank is solvent and experienced to deal with this and how the one employee or director can handle this. Sharon Johnson said there is possibly a conflict of interest and this is a contract with the city. Dennis Murray said this is getting very close to a discussion of personalities which is not permitted by the Rules of Order.

PROCLAMATIONS

Upon motion of Dick Brady and second of Julie Farrar, the commission voted to adopt a Proclamation kicking off the 2014 Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Campaign. Naomi Twine read this Proclamation. The President declared the motion passed.

Upon motion of Scott Schell and second of Julie Farrar, the commission voted to adopt a Proclamation in support of the 40th Anniversary of the CDBG Program. Wes Poole read this Proclamation and said the City of Sandusky has received a great deal of funds from the CDBG program over many years. The President declared the motion passed.

CURRENT BUSINESS

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

ITEM #1 – ORDERED IN 7.28.14

ORDINANCE NO. 14-091: It is requested an ordinance be passed repealing Ordinance 14-058, which provided for the submission to the electors of the City of Sandusky a proposed charter amendment to reduce the city commission members from seven to five 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 in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: Dennis Murray said this is consistent with action taken at the last meeting where the commission decided they want to focus exclusively on the admissions and income tax issues which will be on the ballot in November.

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

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

ITEM #2 – Submitted by Amanda Meyers, Paralegal

MOU WITH ERIE COUNTY LAND REUTILIZATION CORPORATION FOR DEMOLITION PROGRAM

Budgetary Information: There is no cost associated with this Memorandum of Understanding other than the total amount of staff time expended to negotiate and prepare the Memorandum of Understanding.

PASSED AT FIRST READING: It is requested a resolution be passed **authorizing and directing the city manager to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the Erie County Land Reutilization Corporation to administer a demolition program in partnership with the City of Sandusky's land reutilization program within the City of Sandusky utilizing grant funding from the Ohio Housing Finance Agency for the Neighborhood Initiative program upon approval of the Erie County Land Reutilization Corporation's grant application.**

Upon motion of Jeff Smith and second of Naomi Twine, the commission voted to approve this resolution at first reading.

Discussion: Dick Brady asked staff to provide an explanation why this program would be an advantage to the city. Amanda Meyers said the biggest benefit is it will provide funding for demolition which the city does not itself have. Scott Schell said the Neighborhood Initiative Program will be administered through the Ohio Housing Finance Agency which monitors and doles out the hardest hit funds which were put together at the peak of the real estate crisis. The federal government, working in conjunction with the states, came up with an agreement to release some of the hardest hit funds that had not been utilized. This has been done in Ohio, Michigan and Indiana. This is a little more restrictive of a grant than in the past and Erie County does have to own the land before any work can begin and is how this Resolution came about. Scott Schell said he met with the city's Land Bank Committee on several occasions and Julie Farrar is on the Erie County Land Bank Board of Directors. There is a very good level of understanding between the two organizations and even though there is some uncertainty as to whether or not Erie County will receive this grant, he likes to look at the positives of the situation. The city and county land bank will work together on account of the good of Erie County as a whole. Scott Schell said he will not be able to vote on this item for obvious reasons but this is an opportunity to eliminate blight throughout the City of Sandusky and Erie County and we will remain hopeful in receiving this grant and move forward. Amanda Meyers said the majority of the properties we are asking to be demolished will leave unbuildable lots and are eligible for the Mow to Own program (for adjoining property owners) and hopefully will have an end user once demolition is completed. Dick Brady thanked Julie Farrar for her involvement and stated she has been engaged in this program from "day one" and is responsible for getting things accomplished. Dennis Murray said this has the support of the Sandusky Land Bank Committee and there is not a designated amount of money specifically for Sandusky if the grant is awarded, although Sandusky has the lion's share of blighted properties and the bulk of the money would flow to the City of Sandusky. Scott Schell said the grant is contingent upon the size of Erie County and funding can be up to the amount of \$500,000. There is a \$25,000 limit per property and Erie County has three more demolitions to go with their Move Ohio Forward program and before it ends, will have demolished 39 properties, 30 of which were in the City of Sandusky. The average demolition price is a little less than \$13,000 per property and surveys are done for those requiring asbestos removal. The system is in place and there is cooperation with community partners and he looks forward to a positive outcome to move the entire community forward. Wesley Poole asked if the properties are deeded to Erie County and Amanda Meyers said four properties are currently identified and she has approval to obtain five or six more; these are condemned structures. Wesley Poole asked if members of the Land Bank Committee will determine which to send forward for this program and Amanda Meyers said this is correct. Wesley Poole asked if this is a loan; Scott Schell said Erie County fronts the money and is then reimbursed by the program funds. The amount of the demolition is a lien on the property for up to three years or until a qualifying end-user is found. The majority of these lots will be unbuildable and will be transferred to the adjacent property owners.

Roll call on the resolution: Yeas: Wesley Poole, Julie Farrar, Dennis Murray, Dick Brady, Naomi Twine and Jeff Smith, 6. Abstain: Scott Schell, 1. The President declared the resolution passed at first reading.

ITEM #3 – Submitted by Jane E. Cullen, P.E.

ENCROACHMENT LICENSES FOR 101 – 109 AND 115 WATER STREET AND 107 COLUMBUS AVENUE

Budgetary Information: The cost of the recording is estimated to be \$204 and is to be paid with capital funds.

- A. **ORDINANCE NO. 14-092:** It is requested an ordinance be passed **authorizing the city manager to enter into a license agreement with the Sandusky State Theatre, Inc., to provide for the use of a certain portion of the city's rights-of-way, in relation to the Water Street rehabilitation and paving project, as described in the grant of a license for encroachment, a copy of which is attached to this ordinance, marked Exhibit "1" and incorporated herein;** 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 in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: Dennis Murray asked Aaron Klein to provide an overview as to why the commissioners are voting on three of these at the same time. Aaron Klein said about one month ago, the Engineering Department realized there were approximately over 50 encroachments involved with the Water Street rehabilitation project and any time a project is done utilizing federal funds with the Metropolitan Planning Organization, we have to ensure things in the rights-of-way are accounted for and there are agreements between the city and the property owners. In speaking with staff from the Ohio Department of Transportation, three of these are on tonight's agenda including a fire escape at the Sandusky State Theatre, a ramp and railing at Hot Dog Tony's and a concrete ramp with three canopies at the Hubbard Building Condominium building. This is to ensure the project can continue to move forward with the appropriate funding in place. Jeff Smith said he will abstain from voting on this item as he is a board member of the Sandusky State Theatre. Dick Brady said he will abstain from voting on this legislation as his wife serves on the Board of the State Theatre.

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

- B. **ORDINANCE NO. 14-093:** It is requested an ordinance be passed **authorizing the city manager to enter into a license agreement with Alpha Omega Development Company, LLC, dba Hot Dog Tony's, to provide for the use of a certain portion of the city's rights-of-way, in relation to the Water Street rehabilitation and paving project, as described in the grant of a license for encroachment, a copy of which is attached to this ordinance, marked Exhibit "1" and incorporated herein;** and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Upon motion of Wesley Poole and second of Jeff Smith, the commission voted to approve this ordinance in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: Dennis Murray said he will abstain from voting on this item as he provides legal representation for Hot Dog Tony's.

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

Naomi Twine and Jeff Smith, 6. Dennis Murray: Abstain, 1. The President declared the ordinance passed.

C. [ORDINANCE NO. 14-094](#): It is requested an ordinance be passed **authorizing the city manager to enter into a license agreement with Hubbard Building Condominium Unit Owners Associations, Inc., to provide for the use of a certain portion of the city's rights-of-way, in relation to the Water Street rehabilitation and paving project, as described in the grant of a license for encroachment, a copy of which is attached to this ordinance, marked Exhibit "1" and incorporated herein;** 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 Julie Farrar, the commission voted to approve this ordinance in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

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

ITEM #4 – Submitted by Hank Solowiej, CPA & Finance Director

PAYMENT TO ODNR FOR SUBMERGED LANDS LEASE FOR SANDUSKY SAILING CLUB

Budgetary Information: This submerged lands lease is payable by the City of Sandusky as the lease holder. The Sandusky Sailing Club will reimburse the city for the cost of the lease pursuant to their lease agreement with the city. ODNR does not allow a sub-lease holder to make a submerged lands lease payment on the city's behalf. Ordinance #13-078 was passed by the City Commission on August 12, 2013, approving payment in the amount of \$18,104.36 for the period September 1, 2013 – August 31, 2014.

[ORDINANCE NO. 14-095](#): It is requested an ordinance be **passed authorizing and directing the city manager to make payment to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Office of Coastal Management, for rental payment on submerged lands lease file #SUB-0530-ER for the period of September 1, 2014, through August 31, 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 Scott Schell, the commission voted to approve this ordinance in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: Dennis Murray said he understands this submerged lands lease is for property leased by the City of Sandusky to the Sandusky Sailing Club and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources requires the city make this payment; the Sandusky Sailing Club reimburses these monies to the city.

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

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Upon motion of Naomi Twine and second of Jeff Smith, the commission voted to accept three donations for the K-9 Fund from North Coast Young Professionals (\$1,000 – specifically earmarked for a bulletproof vest for the K-9), Brycen Wobser (\$29.27) and from the Hog & Dog Wash event (\$487.64). The President declared the motion passed.

Upon motion of Scott Schell and second of Jeff Smith, the commission voted to accept a donation from Leonard Johnson in the amount of \$50 for the Friends of the Greenhouse. The President declared the motion passed.

Eric Wobser said the city's administration recently entered into a **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with AFSCME Local 1519 to modify Article 37.7 of the contract regarding Workers' Compensation and Light Duty** affecting the period an employee can remain on light duty beyond 60 days at the sole discretion of management. This MOU is effective through the remainder of the current contract which will end on December 31, 2015. Eric Wobser said this was a creative solution to a section of the AFSCME contract in which employees may have been injured and able to return to work to perform light duty. There was a clause in the contract stating after 60 days, they could not go back to full duty if they were unable to work. Eric Wobser said he believes the intention was to get them back to work and to full-duty as quickly as possible but with the rules, it actually led to the unintended consequence of the employee being off work for up to twelve months. This MOU creates the discretion of management for employees to be placed on light duty throughout this one year period and ultimately could keep someone working (on light duty) as opposed to being off. One great example was an employee in the Street Division who was very capable of working in the sign department and performing light duty and this was a creative solution to avoid unintended consequences and to keep people working as often as possible. In these situations, the city's Human Resources Department realized an employee was reaching 60 days of time off and would have begun a situation where they would have been off for up to twelve months. The administration, as well as the local unions, want to see people work to serve the citizens of Sandusky.

Eric Wobser said a petition was submitted to the city regarding **the four-way stop/downtown traffic lights on Market Street at both Columbus Avenue and Wayne Street**. Aaron Klein and staff in the Planning Division are planning to meet about this to analyze whether there is a challenge. Eric Wobser said his initial thought is there is a problem with visibility at the four-way stop, it is not necessarily that it is inappropriate. The height of the lights may be causing some visibility issues and the traffic patterns are being reviewed to see if some small changes can be made to make this four-way stop more visible. Dennis Murray asked staff to also keep in mind the problems brought to light in the newspaper about **Butler Street traffic**.

Eric Wobser said there has been a lot of conversation about the **algal bloom** in the area and Sandusky's water is clean, is in great shape and is safe to drink. Eric Wobser commended Aaron Klein, and Doug Keller, Water Services Superintendent, who was featured in a Washington Post article today and represented Sandusky intelligently about what the federal government does and does not regulate and said there will be changes at the federal level because of the situation in Toledo. Eric Wobser said he was happy to see Sandusky quoted as an expert in this situation and noted we will do our best to stay on top of this issue. He will keep the commissioners and the citizens informed, but said it sometimes takes these kinds of crisis to be part of a larger solution. Dennis Murray said he had an occasion to speak with Senator Gardner last week although he could not join him at the water plant, and Senator Gardner was very complimentary about the city staff. Dennis Murray said the city should be having conversations about costs for additional testing and the very significant costs associated with additional chemicals.

Eric Wobser said the Information Technology staff will be presenting a commission agenda item for August 25 regarding an **update to the Kronos/Payroll system**. This is the system city employees use to clock in and out and keep track of their time and has caused major issues and problems in getting the payroll completed and paying our employees. Kronos is the product the city would like to stay with and is well integrated between our safety forces and the rest of the staff and we analyzed the options considered including:

1. *Change to cloud-based system - \$50,000 for first year + \$25,000 every year thereafter*
2. *Paper System – antiquated and time consuming*
3. **Recommended Option: Purchase new server & contract with Kronos - \$22,176**

The cloud-based system has a high expense with a high annual cost. The paper system would be a step backward and the most time consuming and likely for error.

Eric Wobser said the Information Technology staff will also be presenting a commission agenda item for August 25 regarding a **managed print services contract**.

Eric Wobser **congratulated Victoria Kurt and John Orzech for the success of the first National Night Out/Touch A Truck event** which was a huge success and said plans are already being discussed to make 2015 bigger and better. Victoria and John were major driving forces in organizing this event and Victoria also managed to turn around during the same week and put on an employee golf outing. Eric Wobser also thanked Dave Degnan and Aaron Klein for helping to set up this event. The logistics went along without any hiccups and the city got great and positive feedback about it and this was a great example of great role models for the youth of the city to come together. John Orzech said he received a lot of good comments from attendees and the participants are already looking to plan a bigger and better event in 2015. City employees were engaged and interactive in explaining the vehicles and equipment.

Eric Wobser said the **recycling centers have been analyzed** by Aaron Klein, John Orzech and himself, and they have been monitoring the locations closely during the past two weeks. Eric Wobser said these sites are not being picked up three times each week as currently contracted with FSI Disposal. It looks like what is happening is when the dumpsters are filling up, the recyclable items are still being placed and the dumpsters are then overflowing because they are not being emptied on a regular basis as per the pictures taken. Eric Wobser said his recommendation is for the police, engineering and law department to work closely with FSI to immediately turn this around and get three pick-ups each week as contracted for to take care of any overflow which continues to exist as a first step before looking at the placement of cameras. The vast majority is not illegal dumping, it is an overflow issue. Eric Wobser said his experience with cameras and those who have dealt with their use is they are likely to be more expensive and their monitoring would be a significant outlay of human resources. Before taking this drastic step, the hope is to find out if regular pickups will dissuade the overflow. Wesley Poole asked the actual number of pickups during this two week period the sites were monitored. John Orzech said he met with FSI on site two weeks ago and has monitored this area since. City crews completely cleaned the area, which had been significantly full, and left without debris around the containers. When checked again throughout the day Monday and again on Tuesday, cardboard and other recyclable materials were being placed outside of the containers as they were all full. These were again cleaned out on Wednesday and on Friday, and when checked again on Monday, the dumpsters were full and have not been picked up as of 3:30 p.m. today. It looks as if the citizens are being responsible to place materials in the dumpsters, but the pickups are not occurring, especially on Mondays and after the weekends. Wesley Poole asked if FSI has responded and Eric Wobser said FSI responded they thought they were picked up on the regularly scheduled date. Wesley Poole said he has past experience with cameras and their value is not too expensive and if we had cameras, we would not be arguing about whether or not these have been picked up. There are great benefits to any organization to using cameras for specific purposes.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Dennis Murray said the commission has talked during the past couple of months, sometimes one-on-one, about a number of legislative issues. One that comes to mind is emails about the issue of **donation boxes in the city and how they are showing up all over town**. In many instances, the boxes are being placed illegally and some communities have responded by limiting the number of boxes or payment of fees for pickup on a regular basis and Dennis Murray said he has asked Don Icsman to prepare this legislation for the city to look at to determine what we would like to do about this.

Dennis Murray said he would also like to have a **vacant property registration bank** as well and this is an important step and he has asked Don Icsman to put together legislation for consideration. It is better for all of the commissioners to have a better understanding of what is being asked of the law director so when legislation comes before the commissioners, it is not a surprise. The difficult thing for the law department is if one commissioner asks for this and it is not in the context of the entire commission, it puts the law director in a position he is uncomfortable with but he (Dennis) would like to see these two issues brought forward. The problem is the same one we have had for a long time, and that is there are a lot of good ordinances on the books but the city does not have the personnel to enforce them. He is hopeful once the public once fully understands the ballot proposal, they will be supportive of it and the city should be taking some foundational steps now to make certain we are in a position to move forward aggressively with blight issues, including the donation boxes and vacant properties. The legislation can be put into place now so that with the voters' approval, we are able to aggressively deal with these issues in the New Year and he looks forward to this unless there is objection. Wesley Poole said he has no objections to either initiative, but would like to have some discussion about what the problem is - as the commission sees it - so that when the legislation is brought forth, he can attach it to the problem and see who will address it. Wesley Poole said charging someone a fee to have bins placed in the City of Sandusky is not enough for him to know they will be cleaned up. Dennis Murray said it is his thought with a particular piece of legislation in front of the commission would crystalize the discussion and he is in no rush to see any of these things done, he would just like to start the process. The concern is about adopting legislation when there is not legislation to enforce, but he (Dennis) believes help is coming, and perhaps a discussion about what more the city can be doing to help the community and its residents would be a good discussion to have. Wesley Poole suggests there are piles of laws in the community and we may not have the manpower to enforce every law, every minute of the day, but we can set priorities and decide where we are going to put resources. Over the years, Wesley Poole said he has watched what goes on in the community and thinks it has been more about lack of priority than lack of funds. Dennis Murray said he could not agree more it is the commissions' responsibility to set priorities for the staff and residents and one of the consensus items from the commission is to reinvigorate code and zoning enforcement and to ask for legislation to deal with these issues. Previous commissions, including when he served, allowed the cuts to occur because there was not funding and these decisions were made and we find ourselves back on our heels and behind because of them. It is for the commission to decide priorities and where money should be spent. Dick Brady said prior to being elected, and never crystalized more for him than in the past six months, this city will never obtain its full potential until we transfer from being a complaint-driven code enforcement department to one that is full-time. People are hesitant to complain and they do not want to bring a burden upon themselves. We know and can see there are violations but we do not have the manpower and this has to change and he is confident the commission will embrace this idea and the key is going away from a complaint-driven system for a city this size.

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

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

Dick Brady said on Saturday, August 23, there will be a **public cleanup at Kiwanis Park and the Big Island Water Works site on First Street and River Avenue** beginning at 8 a.m. This effort was spearheaded by Tim Schwanger and Dave Waddington and he encouraged residents to help.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Mark Norman, 1016 Third Street, said he too has hope help is coming for code enforcement issues and to consider the placement of satellite dishes which has gotten out of hand. Some are on front porches, hanging on doors or posts in yards and there does not seem to be any rhyme or reason as to placement and thinks this is deplorable. Mark Norman said perhaps an ordinance can be put into place about them. The mow-to-own program should allow for discretion in how these properties are used because he knows in his own neighborhood, there is one with a boat, a camper, a trailer and this does not help with the appearance of the neighborhood.

Sharon Johnson, 1139 Fifth Street, said she was reading the minutes of another governmental entity about curbside recycling in Erie County becoming county-wide and was surprised to see the city has put in a bid to be included with this as the county would like to get this up and running by the first of the year. They have hired a professional consultant to prepare a Request for Proposals (RFP). Sharon Johnson said she has been attending some of these meetings and the last time they had a bid, the haulers were apprehensive about bidding because they did not know if Sandusky would be in or out. Sandusky is a big area and counts big time in the equation of this and asked how the haulers can expect to do a professional bid if the city does not know if they are in or out. Dennis Murray said the staff at this point is exploring what this would look like and defining the service and Erie County has offered to put together bid specifications and costs as the city does not have the manpower to put something like this together. Dennis Murray said Sandusky was asked to participate in reviewing bid specifications and indicated we would like to see what this would look like and then see what the pricing is, but nothing will happen until deliberated by the city commissioners. The commissioners will have to see what the specifications would look like and how much it would cost; Dennis Murray said he knew this was occurring and thought it would make sense to find out the pricing and the haulers will have to make their own business decisions, as will the city. Dennis Murray said Sandusky has a lot of other things on its plate right now and this is down on the list of priorities and it is okay to look, but we are not in a position to do anything. Sharon Johnson said the county explored this previously and the haulers were confused and did not know what they were bidding on or whether Sandusky was in or out. Sandusky is a big factor in this and the county knows this. Wesley Poole asked if Sandusky has a verbal commitment and Eric Wobser said the basic situation is Sandusky signed an MOU to participate in the RFP being issued by the county to solicit bids so the city can be included in the bid, but the MOU is not a guarantee we will participate in any service and we can fully decide to *not* participate in any service. Eric Wobser said he would defer to Aaron Klein or Rebecca Corrigan whether to include Sandusky and we would like to see what it would cost to provide the service specifically just for Sandusky as well as to potentially look at serving Sandusky by zone. Eric Wobser said he has not been updated as to whether or not this would be possible and the goal was to have as much data as possible so that if and when it does become time for the commission to provide direction and make a decision, we have data which tells us the different costs. With our current internal capacity, we would not have been able to do this without the specifications for any of these potential alternatives. Aaron Klein said there have been discussions with the county about what this would look like but they are not to the point where there are any documents. We have asked them to pull Sandusky out and have its own contract, as well as to prepare something similar to look at a zone system, and a variety of different options. They are in the process of exploring these options to determine how to best word this bid document and once reviewed, these options will be presented to the city commission. One of the things different from this process than the one performed six months ago is there was confusion from the haulers and is why a consultant was brought in. The consultant prepared the documents for Lorain County and other areas and they are very familiar with this process and can analyze our ordinances and look at rules, regulations, ordinances and needs our city has to compared to a more rural area. They can incorporate language into the document which incorporates the different streets with parking, the size of the bins and all of the things Sandusky might need compared to Erie County. We would either have a completely separate bid, or one with all of Erie County and this is what is being analyzed. Sharon Johnson asked if the City Manager informed the commission a MOU has been signed and Dennis Murray said we are not going to go through this process of cross

examination of the staff and said if there are further comments to let the commission know what is on her mind. Wesley Poole asked where the Requests for Proposals which are tied to a MOU will be submitted. Eric Wobser said this was signed at the Erie County Solid Waste District's request to participate in their Request for Proposals. In addition, we are included in this process but the RFP has not yet been released.

Amanda Meyers, 10707 S.R. 4, said there are a lot of vacant and abandoned lots in the city and the goal of the Mow to Own program is to acquire properties and get owners to take care of them, but not every abandoned lot is a mow-to-own lot although we may be trying to acquire them in this stage. Up to this point, all of the contracts are being fulfilled and properties are being maintained.

Matt Morgan, 1003 West Osborne Street, said a young couple stopped in his store over the weekend and he had the ability to pick their brains and he asked why they came to town. Most people come for Cedar Point, but this couple wanted to explore the area and walked around downtown. They were impressed by the city and we are all ambassadors to it whether we realize it or not. While Kelley's Island is not in downtown Sandusky, they were going there and he recommended they see the glacial grooves and they stopped back to thank him (Matt) for suggesting this to them. These are meaningful things to our youth and are benefits of our city and we want people to come, be part of it and participate.

Jennifer Brindley, 547 50th Street, said her business (The Sail-In) sold after 14 years in business and a farewell party will be held on August 30 from 3 p.m. – 1 a.m. with food, drinks and special prices. She hopes the commissioners will give the new owners a good review with the liquor board and said they are a good fit. Jennifer Brindley thanked all of the employees who work for the City of Sandusky for their assistance and guidance in the past. Dennis Murray congratulated Jennifer Brindley for all of the good years of business in Sandusky.

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

Kelly L. Kresser, CMC
Clerk of the City Commission

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