

**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, Jeff Smith, Dennis Murray, Scott Schell, Naomi Twine and Dick Brady.

**Upon motion Jeff Smith and second of Wesley Poole, the commission voted to excuse Julie Farrar. The President declared the motion passed.**

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

**Dennis Murray welcomed Boy Scout Troop #44 and their scoutmaster, Yvette Shores.**

**Upon motion of Naomi Twine and second of Jeff Smith, the commission voted to approve the minutes of the October 27, 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 she has not seen where the owners have signed an agreement (Item #2) indicating they will take care of this and there was a transition of owners today.

Tim Stookey, said the sale of property (Item #4) is to a serviceman who is willing to come into town and fix up a structure and this could be the start of something big. Veterans who are returning home are looking for nice places to live as he did when he returned from Vietnam.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING**

Dennis Murray opened the Public Hearing and recognized Angela Byington to speak to the proposed amendment to the zoning map.

Angela Byington said **application was made for a zoning change by Tamara Trent and Misty Higham for 1503 Clinton Street from R2F (two-family residential) to R140 single family residential**. This property was purchased by the applicants through the city's land bank and as a condition of the sale the applicants were required to apply for the rezoning. The property has been used as a two-family structure in the past but they are proposing to remodel it to a single-family home. The property is surrounded on all sides by single-family residential and the city's land use plan calls for low use residential. Rezoning the property would provide continuity with the surrounding zoning and the comprehensive plan. The Planning Commission has recommended approval for the rezoning.

Dennis Murray asked if there were any comments for or against this proposed change in zoning. There being none, **the President declared the public hearing closed.**

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

#### **CURRENT BUSINESS**

**ITEM #1 – Submitted by Angela Byington, AICP**

**AMENDMENT TO ZONING MAP, 1503 CLINTON STREET**

**Budgetary Information:** There is no budgetary impact to this request.

**ORDINANCE NO. 14-126:** It is requested an ordinance be passed **amending the official zone map of the City of Sandusky to rezone Parcel #58-02911.000, located at 1503 Clinton Street, from R2F (two-family residential) to R1-40 (single-family residential);** and declaring that this ordinance shall take effect under suspension of the rules as contained in and in accordance with Section 13 of the city charter.

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

*Discussion:* Wesley Poole said turning this property from two-family to single-family is a good thing for this neighborhood. Dennis Murray said he appreciated a map was included to show this area.

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

**ITEM #2 – Submitted by Aaron M. Klein, P.E.**

**EMERGENCY DEMOLITION OF 109 EAST WATER STREET**

**Budgetary Information:** The cost for this work is \$51,600 and will be paid with special assessment funds. The prospective purchase has agreed to reimburse the city in full for all funds expended through demolition. It is not anticipated that any funds will be expended until 2015.

**ORDINANCE NO. 14-127:** It is requested an ordinance be passed **approving the emergency demolition work at the property located at 109 East Water Street, ratifying the award to and execution of the contract with Ed Burdue & Company, Co., LLC of Sandusky, Ohio;** 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:* Dick Brady asked for some details regarding this. Eric Wobser said the demolition of the property began today, on an emergency basis, although the remediation for asbestos began last week. In order for the contract to go forward, the purchaser will close tomorrow and the agreement and its terms are being drafted by the Law Department; this will be ratified at a later date. The city has the ability to place a lien on this property, if necessary, and he feels very secure about the costs the city may be taking on. Dennis Murray said he will abstain due to his firm's proximity to the building.

**Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Wesley Poole, Jeff Smith, Scott Schell, Naomi Twine and Dick Brady, 5. Abstain: Dennis Murray, 1. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Wesley Poole, Jeff Smith, Scott Schell, Naomi Twine and Dick Brady, 5. Abstain: Dennis Murray, 1. The President declared the ordinance passed.**

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

**ACCEPTANCE OF PROPERTIES THROUGH LAND REUTILIZATION PROGRAM**

**Budgetary Information:** The cost of these acquisitions will be approximately \$450 which includes title exams, title fees, recording fees and transfer fees, of which the city will recoup upon sale. The taxing districts will not collect the \$13,473.48 owed in delinquent property taxes, nor the \$3,273.48 owed in penalties and interest, totaling \$16,746.96. The city will not collect the \$249.18 owed to the city for special assessments. However, upon sale, the city will be able to recoup some of the delinquent taxes and special assessments. By returning this nonproductive land to tax producing status, the taxing districts will begin collecting approximately \$2,537.24 yearly in real estate taxes.

**RESOLUTION NO. 046-14R:** It is requested a resolution be passed **approving and accepting certain real property for acquisition into the land reutilization 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 Jeff Smith, the commission voted to approve this resolution. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Wesley Poole, Jeff Smith, Dennis Murray, Scott Schell, Naomi Twine and Dick Brady, 6. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call**

**on the resolution: Yeas: Wesley Poole, Jeff Smith, Dennis Murray, Scott Schell, Naomi Twine and Dick Brady, 6. The President declared the resolution passed.**

**ITEM #4 – Submitted by Amanda Meyers, Paralegal  
SALE OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2212 MILAN ROAD**

**Budgetary Information:** The cost associated with this purchase and sale agreement is the total amount of the title examination, deed preparation, escrow 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 these expenses from the purchase price paid by the purchaser. However, the city will not recoup the delinquent taxes for which it was foreclosed upon in the approximate amount of \$12,683. However, upon the sale of this property, the taxing districts will begin collecting approximately \$1,547.62 per year in real estate taxes. The sale and rehabilitation of this property will revitalize the neighborhood and enhance surrounding property values.

**ORDINANCE NO. 14-128:** 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 #57-04055.000, located at 2212 Milan Road, 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 Wesley Poole, the commission voted to approve this ordinance.**

*Discussion:* Wesley Poole said this is a good thing and he is glad to see people improving homes in bad condition. Dennis Murray said this is a win for the city and thanked the proposed buyer for doing this.

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

**ITEM #5 – Submitted by Aaron M. Klein, P.E.**

**GENERAL TRADES CONTRACT FOR BIG ISLAND WATER WORKS CHEMICAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

**Budgetary Information:** Previous work was funded through an Ohio Water Development Authority loan and will be paid with water funds. The contract amount after change orders #1 - #3 was reduced by \$138,265.32 for a total contract cost of \$3,511,734.68. The revised contract amount after this change order is \$3,805,237.04. Since the current loan has not been closed, the chief engineer at OWDA will allow payment for this change order under the existing loan. My office will prepare the necessary paperwork requested by the chief engineer.

The breakdown of the additional work is as follows:

Replacement (6/6/14 quote)	\$294,507.00
Add Option 1 (valve modification)	-\$ 1,504.00
Add Option 2 (containment piping)	-\$ 5,050.00
Add Option 3 (piping to tank)	\$ 4,742.00
Reduction (city to place asphalt and grass)	-\$ 5,000.00
Back charges for miscellaneous repair work	<u>\$ 5,807.36</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$293,502.36</b>

**ORDINANCE NO. 14-129:** It is requested an ordinance be passed **authorizing and directing the city manager to approve the fourth change order for work to be performed for the Big Island Water Works chemical improvement project in the amount of \$293,502.36 by Kirk Brothers Co., Inc., of Alvada, Ohio;** 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 Scott Schell, the commission voted to approve this ordinance.**

*Discussion:* Eric Wobser said the commission was briefed about the chemical project in an executive session. A portion of this project was failing and people believe the chemical company potentially has some liability, but because of a safety perspective for our employees, we needed to make these improvements while working with those involved with the project to recoup as much of these costs as possible. Aaron Klein said the city has spoken to the chemical manufacturer, the design engineer and the contractor. All three have gotten back to us and there is a meeting with the chemical manufacturer on November 18. We are fortunate to not have closed the OWDA loan and the costs will come from this. Dennis Murray said the city had a lot of money for its chemical improvement project and the city was provided specifications to use certain materials for sodium permanganate as chosen by our engineer and supplier but it has been degrading and leaking and we cannot place our employees at risk.

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

**ITEM #6 – Submitted by John Orzech, Chief of Police**

**2015 CONTRACT FOR BULKY & SOLID WASTE VEHICLE INSPECTION SERVICES WITH ERIE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR 2015**

**Budgetary Information:** The city will collect an annual registration fee of \$50 per vehicle, for the purpose of inspection, administration and enforcement of Chapter 955. One half of the permit fees collected will be paid by the city to the Board of Health for providing bulky and solid waste vehicle inspection services.

**RESOLUTION NO. 047-14R:** It is requested a resolution be passed **authorizing the city manager to enter into a contract for services with the Erie County General Health District Board of Health for bulky and solid waste vehicle inspection services;** and declaring that this resolution shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

**Upon motion of Wesley Poole and second of Naomi Twine, the commission voted to approve this resolution. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Wesley Poole, Jeff Smith, Dennis Murray, Scott Schell, Naomi Twine and Dick Brady, 6. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the resolution: Yeas: Wesley Poole, Jeff Smith, Dennis Murray, Scott Schell, Naomi Twine and Dick Brady, 6. The President declared the resolution passed.**

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

Dennis Murray congratulated Eric Wobser and those in the city for the great **victory with Issue 8**. We are now entering into a very different period in our city's history after managing decline for decades. This is an opportunity to look forward with optimism and many have asked why the city cannot make a better go of it and now we have the opportunity. It is incumbent upon the city manager and the charter officers to respond in a very different way. This is no longer a defensive play, it is offensive and requires a very different approach by the commission, the charter officers and the entire staff. Forty-two percent of the citizens voted no and we still have to prove ourselves to them and he looks forward to working toward a plan where the city will go.

Eric Wobser thanked the commission for having the political fortitude to place this issue on the Ballot by a 7 – 0 vote. This consensus, as well as the consensus of residents and persons in our business community, is why it passed and we are very thankful. As mentioned on Tuesday, this began because we have been entrusted by the community with their hard earned dollars to move the city forward and we are looking at commitments made and how to manage our staffing levels and vision. This is a new challenge and we have been looking at how to do more with less, but now we will have resources. Planning must be done to ensure a climate is created to impact our residents and we are up to this task. There is a bright future for Sandusky and he is humbled to be a part of it. Dennis Murray thanked all who solidly supported this issue.

**Upon motion of Jeff Smith and second of Wesley Poole, the commission voted to accept a donation from Wendy Kromer Confections of ten dozen sugar cookies for the Sandusky Recreation "Cookies for Santa" camp taking place December 18 at the City Service Center Conference Room, with Scott Schell abstaining (est. value \$120).**

**Upon motion of Jeff Smith and second of Naomi Twine, the commission voted to accept a donation from the Robert Engelhorn Trust in the amount of \$10,000 to be used for the city's greenhouse.**

*Discussion:* Dennis Murray said he would like to learn a little bit more about Mr. Engelhorn. Eric Wobser said he will coordinate and find out what his life entailed and what may have caused him to make this donation. The city was happy to learn of this.

**The President declared the motion passed.**

Eric Wobser said there has been discussion about moving the city forward during the Issue 8 campaign and **the long vacant position of Community Development Director was posted.** It was important because we think this position helps to relieve some of the pressure of having too many departments reporting through too few officials. This will assist maintaining the value of our existing building stock as well as helping to draft plans for the city to drive investment and economic development. This is our strategy to not be understaffed in Code Enforcement, Building, Transit and Planning; this only creates a vicious circle in which we are not doing enough to proactively attract investment to the community. The value of the buildings and businesses continues to decline and Eric Wobser is very excited to say this position has been offered to a candidate who has accepted it and will begin work on December 8. The position of Chief Development Officer will be filled by Matt Lasko and he will oversee Code Enforcement, the Building Department, our Planning & Housing functions as well as the Economic Development and Transit activities undertaken by the city. Matt Lasko is currently the Assistant Director for the Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization (DSCDO) and has been with the organization since 2007. He has held several positions with the organization including Housing Specialist focusing on code enforcement, Operations Manager, Director of Housing and most recently, Assistant Director. As Assistant Director, Matt is responsible for overseeing all real estate development activities within the immediate neighborhood and general service area including Cuyahoga County and contiguous counties. These activities include multi-family rental housing development, new construction for-sale housing, single-family rehabilitation of vacant and abandoned properties, and recapitalization of DSCDO's multi-family portfolio. Additional responsibilities include ensuring demolition of deteriorated structures to both support private housing developments and assemble land for future real estate projects. DSCDO's single-family rehabilitation program is held up as a national model for vacant property redevelopment and has resulted in over 170 once vacant properties being redeveloped since 2008.

Matt holds a Bachelor's degree (Political Science & Sociology) from Baldwin-Wallace University (2005), a Master's degree in Social Science Administration from Case Western Reserve University's Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences (2007), a Certificate of Non-profit Management from Case Western Reserve University's Weatherhead School of Management (2007) and a Master's degree in Urban Planning, Design and Development from Cleveland State University's Maxine Levin College of Urban Affairs (2012). Matt also holds a Housing Development Finance Professional certification from the National Development Council and sits on the Advisory Group for the Ohio Consolidated Plan – focusing on program development and implementation of the Housing Development Assistance Program and Community Housing Development Organization certification process administered by the Ohio Housing Finance Agency. Matt, born and raised in Vermilion and currently resides in Carlisle Township in Lorain County with his wife Kasey and two sons – Tatum (3 years) and Kellen (3 months).

Eric Wobser said the City of Sandusky recently learned about an opportunity for the **National Trust for Public Lands (NTPL) to write a grant application, on our behalf, to the Ohio Coastal Management Office for a Master Plan to be prepared for the Sandusky Bay Pavilion property.**

The city received a letter from the state indicating the city needs to put together a plan for the pool at this location so we are no longer in violation. This will allow us to have a larger vision of this area of the city. Eric Wobser requested the commission nominate the National Trust for Public Lands and authorize the City Manager to move forward with this grant application as it is due November 21 at 5 p.m. Legislation will be drafted for the November 24 City Commission meeting to ratify this grant application.

**Upon motion of Naomi Twine and second of Scott Schell, the commission voted to nominate the National Trust for Public Lands to prepare a grant application with the Ohio Coastal Management Office for a Master Plan to be prepared for the Sandusky Bay Pavilion property.**

*Discussion:* Dick Brady asked about the city's cost being picked up by another entity. Eric Wobser said the city can apply for up to \$50,000 and there is a 50/50 match and he has been in active conversations with local foundations whose intent is to match this grant so the city can begin this planning process. The President declared the motion passed.

Eric Wobser said city staff, in cooperation with several non-profit organizations, has begun **coordinating and installing Christmas decorations in the downtown area**. Tom Speir from the greenhouse and Victoria Kurt from the Recreation Department have been helping to coordinate activities with the Sandusky Community Celebrations Council.

Eric Wobser said there will be **a service honoring all U.S. Veterans on Tuesday, November 11**. The service begins at 11 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church and ends at Veterans Memorial Park.

Eric Wobser said **city offices will be closed** on Tuesday, November 11 in observance of the Veteran's Day holiday.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

None.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Upon motion of Scott Schell and second of Jeff Smith, the commission voted to hold an executive session for personnel, review of commission clerk. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Wesley Poole, Jeff Smith, Dennis Murray, Scott Schell, Naomi Twine and Dick Brady, 6. The President declared the motion passed.**

**Upon motion of Dick Brady and second of Jeff Smith, the commission voted to hold an executive session for personnel, review of finance director. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Wesley Poole, Jeff Smith, Dennis Murray, Scott Schell, Naomi Twine and Dick Brady, 6. The President declared the motion passed.**

**Upon motion of Dick Brady and second of Naomi Twine, the commission voted to hold an executive session for personnel, review of law director. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Wesley Poole, Jeff Smith, Dennis Murray, Scott Schell, Naomi Twine and Dick Brady, 6. The President declared the motion passed.**

**Upon motion of Dick Brady and second of Naomi Twine, the commission voted to hold an executive session for personnel, police department. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Wesley Poole, Jeff Smith, Dennis Murray, Scott Schell, Naomi Twine and Dick Brady, 6. The President declared the motion passed.**

**Upon motion of Dick Brady and second of Jeff Smith, the commission voted to hold an executive session for personnel, police department. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Wesley Poole, Jeff Smith, Dennis Murray, Scott Schell, Naomi Twine and Dick Brady, 6. The President declared the motion passed.**

Dennis Murray said he has spoken to the Law Director to draft appropriate legislation for **point of sale inspections**. This legislation requires when a property is sold it meets the current zoning regulations. When someone owns a piece of property, they enter into a covenant of promise for that property agreeing to maintain it according to certain standards. Too often, property changes hands and the seller receives the full proceeds and the community or the neighbors are often left to deal with properties. These are then not up to code and are bringing down property values and degrading the quality of life. Many communities have sought to do this by having a code inspection done prior to listing the property and if it does not pass, a certain percentage of the estimated cost of repairs is placed into escrow by the title companies until repairs are completed.

**Upon motion of Dennis Murray and second of Wesley Poole, the commission voted for the Law Director to prepare point of sale legislation modeled on legislation adopted previously by Mayfield Heights.**

*Discussion:* Wesley Poole said this is a good idea and supports the concept, but asked consideration to be given after the new Community Development Director is on board and waiting for input from him so it is a fully staffed project. Turning the Law Director loose to write something based on what another community has done may not be tailored for us. Dennis Murray said this point is well taken and is asking for the legislation to be put together in draft form and when the new Community Development Director is onboard, we can get his input. This can be done in two separate votes.

**The President declared the motion passed.**

#### **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

John Hartman, 533 East Perkins Avenue, thanked the Veterans in the room for their service to our country. John Hartman said the Sandusky Crime Prevention Council held their third annual drug summit last week and the 2015 summit will take place on the third Tuesday of October.

Tim Stookey, 1307 Fifth Street, thanked the staff in the fire department for recently providing care to his wife. The condition of Fifth Street is terrible and Tim Stookey challenged everyone to ride in an ambulance with their wife in the back as he was offered this due to his emotional state. The ambulance driver told him they do not like driving on Fifth Street and they would rather use Cleveland Road or First Street which means driving two or three blocks out of the way in order to drive west and seconds count.

Sharon Johnson, 1139 Fifth Street, asked if the executive sessions for personnel are for the evaluations. Sharon Johnson asked if the increase in admissions and income tax kicks in automatically or if legislation will be passed. Dennis Murray said after the official ballot results are received, legislation will be on the commission agenda.

Albert Dantzer, 2042 Rhode Street, said he has a big oak tree which drops sticks and he picks up sticks and little limbs every time he mows his lawn and asked if the street sweeper can take care of these. He went to the Sandusky Tree Commission to request taking it down but he never heard from them and asked if he can have it trimmed.

Andre Stockett, 202 Taylor Street, said on October 1, he, Kathryn Denslow, and their two week old son were pulled over by Officer Chris Denny and subjected to the most unprofessional and malicious traffic stop ever witnessed in the City of Sandusky. He wants people to understand this incident is one of many that occur in the city and it is the policy of the Police Department to allow this type of behavior. A previous article in the Sandusky Register said Officer Denny did not receive any demerits, discipline or serious negative remarks in his seven plus years on the force but in 2008, a supervisor indicated Officer Denny sometimes did not include enough probable cause in his reports when interviewing or charging subjects. The fact he sometimes does not include enough probable cause only insinuates the supervisors and those responsible for the actions of this officer have known about this for years and have done nothing about it.

In a statement to internal affairs, Officer Denny admitted he has a problem writing reports. He was given another opportunity by the prosecutor on this case to write another report because she knew he left things out intentionally to justify this report and he still lied, but it is the opinion of Eric Wobser, Lynn Gast-King and Chief Orzech the officer acted lawfully; however, it is clear he did not act perfectly. There is always room for improvement and even after the internal affairs report, the video he took and the radio transmission . . . Dennis Murray interrupted and said this chronology is incorrect. Andre Stockett said prior to the stop and with the dash cam video, the prosecutors have yet to contact his attorney to dismiss the charges against he and Ms. Denslow. Andre Stockett said for their unprofessionalism and arrogant attitude of others involved with this stop, the attitude toward him and his family by the City of Sandusky because of the post on the Sandusky Police Department's Facebook page in a deliberate and vindictive way tries to separate him and those who support what was done to him as wrong and as people who do not support the police which is wrong. The opinion and what was said on this post epitomizes what is wrong with this police department; people who are against what happened to him voice their frustration with the department are viewed as spewing hatred because they are voicing their opinion. Andre Stockett said this has been dubbed the "Stockett incident" - like he is at fault - and asked why this is not the "Denny incident" since this is the reason why we are here in the first place. This supports the police department to act illegally and suggest not being supportive of him and has put a divide between him (Andre) and breaking the law. This is a matter of policy and the city has put him and his family in danger by making this the Stockett incident and about him instead of being about Officer Denny. Andre Stockett said his name has been run through the mud by this community because of his past and he is not here to defend who he was because that is not who he is today. It is documented he and Officer Denny were next to each other for at least five minutes and he could have been detained or asked for identification but instead decided to wait for him to get in the car and subject his child and girlfriend to this. While people are crucifying him and saying he deserves this treatment because of his past, neither Katy Denslow nor his child have ever been in trouble with the law yet both were subject to his behavior. Andre Stockett said he wants it on record there should have been an investigation into the fake hit Officer Estep manufactured which is the reason why they were charged. It is clear as day he threw a treat to get the dog to act as if drugs were detected in the car and he reminds everyone no drugs were found. Officer Denny also stated he could not keep them and had to let them go but Officer Estep started the whole thing and the city will not accept responsibility of hanging him (Andre) out to dry. The city and the department has been aware of this and falsifying a police report, which is a crime, but have done nothing about it and the question is how many people has he (Officer Denny) done this to and for how long because some imply he has done this before and will continue to do it. Andre Stockett said he leaves with peace and respect and to protect our rights. Andre Stockett said Dennis Murray's beautiful and great, strong law firm has represented people for civil injustice for years and this is an egregious violation of their civil rights and his (Dennis) position being a member of that firm and the mayor of this city, yet to remain silent, says a lot and needs him; no matter what his (Andre) past, he is still a member of this city and has paid his debt to society.

Kathryn Denslow, 219 West Monroe Street, said she is also here to address the traffic stop from October 1. Officer Denny was the initial officer at this stop but other officers also showed up at the scene and it baffles her not one of the officers chose to do the right thing from Officer Estep, Officer West to Officer Denny himself. The facts are there Officer Denny lied flat out, but asked about the other officers. All of them threatened to take her child away and they should all be held accountable to this issue. Her son was two weeks old when this happened and because of this issue, she has had to deal with complete stress and sadness over the last few weeks. Kathryn Denslow said this is her first child and this should be one of the happiest and joyful times of her life, but because of this issue, she has had complete fear and disappointment and cannot believe something like this could happen in the city she has been raised in and grew up in. Kathryn Denslow asked the commissioners to look at the big picture that because this officer lied and fabricated all through his reports, she was stopped and illegally seized and searched and really makes her think further. Kathryn Denslow asked what would have happened to her boyfriend or her son if she would not have gotten out of the car; would they have been Tasered, beaten up, or perhaps Andre could have been shot. It could have

happened. This also makes her wonder why Andre was standing next to Officer Denny at the carryout but was not questioned then; rather, the officer chose to put her family in harm's way and could have gotten a pat on the arm, but no drugs were found. Kathryn Denslow said the dash cam video clearly shows Officer Estep questioning another officer in the video if any weed was found and asked why this was even a question; were they planning on planting this in her car so this whole issue would have been covered?

Damon Newell, 2229 Olds Street, said he also wants to speak about the traffic stop from October 1 and his main concern is the use of the K-9 Officer. Police released the dash cam video which is available now on [www.YouTube.com](http://www.YouTube.com) entitled "How Does Doggie Treat Turn into Threat for Children's Services". In this video, you can see Officer Estep grab a doggie treat out of his pocket and flick it behind his back and if you miss it, there are plenty of slow motion replays and you can hear the doggie treat hit the car. As Officer Estep gets the attention by flicking this treat behind his back, the dog moves following the flight path of the treat to the car. As the dog reaches the vehicle, Officer Estep indicates that is a hit and the dog indicates narcotics. Damon Newell said his main problem is the use of this doggie treat was executed expertly leaving him to believe this is not the first, second or even tenth time they have used this trick to indicate a hit on narcotics dishonestly and illegally. The false hit executed by Officer Estep using the K-9 Gunner eliminates the credibility of a hit on narcotics by Officer Gunner as the dog is trained to cheat. The narcotics hits have been used as probable cause justifying searches of vehicles so since it is common practice to execute false hits on narcotics, probable cause has been compromised. Dennis Murray said Damon is allowed to state his opinion but making accusations is stepping beyond. Damon Newell said the dash cam shows this and it is not from Andre's phone, it is not from spectators, it is video the department released. Damon Newell said in his opinion, the reason it is important, is because if it is common practice to execute false hits on narcotics by throwing a doggie treat, compromise and probable cause is a dangerous thing because it can no longer be assumed the probable cause was obtained honestly or legally. This is extremely troubling because the word of an officer in a court of law is taken as fact and is not argued. Every local court of law takes an officer's word as fact and if he compromised his word or integrity or causes the public to doubt the effectiveness or the honesty or training that went into the K-9 Officer, he has washed the credibility of the K-9 program down the tubes. Damon Newell asked how long they have been doing this and how many hits on narcotics in the past have been from the flick of a doggie treat. How many times have they gained access to a vehicle because of this? Are Officer Estep and Gunner still on the streets serving the community in their usual fashion because after watching this video one can only assume they are still flicking doggie treats and gaining probable cause to enter vehicles. This is not a matter of Andre Stockett; if his name were replaced by anyone in this room, the situation stands as it is: it is dishonest and illegal and is being done by people who enforce moral standards. Damon Newell asked how this can be done without holding someone to a high moral standard and asked if there has been any disciplinary action taken against Officer Estep or if there has been a suspension of the K-9 program due to the doubt of the integrity of the K-9 officer. This just seems to have disappeared and everyone is concentrating on Officer Denny and Andre Stockett, not that the K-9 Officer was abused and this is perverted. No one is looking at the fact Detective West is a senior detective who has been around for a very long time and all of the other officers were right there in close proximity and witnessed all of this. The behind the back toss of the doggie treat at the vehicle was witnessed by all of these officers. Denis Murray said Damon Newell has made his point and is beyond his time.

John Hartman, 533 East Perkins Avenue, said he appreciates the protection the Sandusky Police Department has given to him, his family and others in the city and thanked Chief Orzech and the men and women in the department.

**The President announced a recess of the meeting at 6:04 p.m. At 6:10 p.m., the commission went into executive session. At 7:54 p.m., the President announced adjournment.**

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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