

Dennis Murray **called the meeting to order** at 5 p.m. after Julie Farrar asked for a **moment of silence in memory of Kris Wood** who worked in the Sandusky Municipal Court for nine years and died last week, **the Invocation**, given by Julie Farrar, and the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

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

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

Upon motion of Naomi Twine and second of Scott Schell the commission voted to approve the minutes of the December 22, 2014, city commission meeting and suspend the oral reading. The President declared the motion passed.

Dennis Murray wished everyone a Happy New Year and said there is a lot of work ahead; 2014 was a productive year and there is more work for 2015 and he looks forward to working with a great group of officers and directors.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None.

PUBLIC HEARING

Dennis Murray opened a Public Hearing relating to a proposed right-of-way vacation.

Angela Byington said this Public Hearing is for a request to vacate a portion of an alley located west of Fremont Street and south of Ward Street, within the city, as set forth on the vacation plat. This alley is approximately 25' x 150' and it is unimproved; currently there are two accessory structures built within the right-of-way. This alley is not used for access to any of the lots and this will be split between the two primary adjacent lots, one of which is a convenience store and the other a single-family residence. All adjoining property owners have signed the vacation petition form and staff recommends approval as the alley is no longer of public value and will not deny access to any existing parcels.

Dennis Murray thanked Angela Byington for the clear materials presented regarding this item. This alley was originally contemplated by the Village of Venice, but the property was never cut out this particular way.

Harold Schonhardt, Fremont Avenue, said he is in favor of this vacation and is one of the adjoining property owners.

The President declared the Public Hearing closed.

CURRENT BUSINESS

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

ITEM #1 – Submitted by Angela Byington, AICP

VACATION OF PORTION OF ALLEY LOCATED WEST OF FREMONT STREET & SOUTH OF WARD STREET

ORDINANCE NO. 15-001: It is requested an ordinance be passed **vacating a portion of an alley located west of Fremont Street and south of Ward Street, within the city, as set forth on the vacation plat, a copy of which is marked Exhibit A-2, attached to this ordinance and**

incorporated herein; 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 Wesley Poole and second of Naomi Twine the commission voted to approve this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in accordance with Section 13 of the city charter. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Julie Farrar, Scott Schell, Jeff Smith, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine, Wesley Poole and Dick Brady, 7. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Julie Farrar, Scott Schell, Jeff Smith, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine, Wesley Poole and Dick Brady, 7. The President declared the ordinance passed.

ITEM #2 - Submitted by Amanda Meyers, Paralegal

ACQUISITION OF PARCEL INTO THE LAND REUTILIZATION PROGRAM

Budgetary Impact: The cost of this acquisition will be approximately \$78.50 which includes title exam, recording fees and transfer fees, of which the city will recoup upon sale. The taxing districts will not collect the \$2,283.06 owed in delinquent property taxes, nor the \$762.55 owed in penalties and interest, totaling 3,045.61. The city will not collect the \$8,092.67 owed to the city for special assessments.

RESOLUTION NO. 001-15R: 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 Julie Farrar the commission voted to approve this resolution under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the city charter. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Julie Farrar, Scott Schell, Jeff Smith, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine, Wesley Poole and Dick Brady, 7. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the resolution: Yeas: Julie Farrar, Scott Schell, Jeff Smith, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine, Wesley Poole and Dick Brady, 7. The President declared the resolution passed.

ITEM #3 – Submitted by Amanda Meyers, Paralegal

SALE OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1521 PROSPECT STREET

Budgetary Information: The cost associated with these purchase and sale agreements is the total amount of the title search, deed preparation, surveyor fees any other customary fees that may be due and payable in the ordinary course of the sale and purchase transaction. The city will recoup the cost of the expenses from the nonrefundable earnest money deposits equaling \$852.50 required to be paid by the purchasers. The taxing districts will begin collecting approximately \$125.98 per year in real estate taxes.

ORDINANCE NO. 15-002: 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 #58-00849.000 located at 1521 Prospect Street, Sandusky, is no longer needed for any municipal purpose and authorizing the execution of purchase and sale agreements 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 Julie Farrar the commission voted to approve this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: Dennis Murray said this is a continuation of a very successful mow-to-own program in the City of Sandusky and looks forward to code enforcement efforts in the year ahead due to problems with inappropriate items being stored on properties.

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

ITEM #4 – Submitted by Troy Vaccaro, Chief Foreman**SALE OF UNNEEDED VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT THROUGH PUBLIC INTERNET AUCTION**

Budgetary Information: The city is responsible for the disposition of unneeded personal property to promote operational efficiency. Using public internet auction for the disposal of unneeded vehicles and equipment will generate more revenue and make items available to a larger community of potential buyers. Proceeds from sales will be deposited into the department's account that was financially responsible for the asset.

RESOLUTION NO. 002-15R: It is requested a resolution be passed **declaring the intent of the City of Sandusky to dispose of personal property and equipment as having become obsolete, unnecessary or unfit for city use through internet auctions during the calendar year 2015;** and declaring that this resolution shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Upon motion of Scott Schell and second of Julie Farrar the commission voted to approve this resolution under suspension of the rules and in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: Dennis Murray said we are authorizing the staff to use internet auctions to dispose of certain items and asked what is typically earned. Aaron Klein said this depends on the vehicles themselves and stated the city gets better revenue through internet auctions. Last year, we were in the range of \$10,000 - \$20,000 including vehicles and equipment. The city still holds a live auction each year.

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

ITEM #5 – Submitted by Doug Keller, Water Services Superintendent**ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDS FROM OHIO EPA FOR CYANOTOXIN TESTING EQUIPMENT**

Budgetary Information: The cost for the purchase of cyanotoxin testing equipment was \$10,743 (Abraxis Company for \$8,568 and MicroscopeWorld.com for \$2,175) and was paid for with water funds. The city will be reimbursed for \$10,000 of these costs from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.

ORDINANCE NO. 15-003: It is requested an ordinance be passed **authorizing and directing the city manager to accept grant funds in the amount of \$10,000 from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Division of Drinking and Ground Water;** 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 Wesley Poole the commission voted to approve this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in accordance with Section 14 of the charter.

Discussion: Dick Brady asked Aaron Klein to provide information regarding this purchase as it is one more example of a department head being creative - somewhat after the fact - and saving taxpayer dollars. Aaron Klein said this is for the algal problems; the city purchased a microscope and later was made aware of \$10,000 grants available for equipment. He then asked the city commission for authorization to apply for testing and lab equipment which was \$8,568; afterwards, the superintendent requested authorization from the EPA to spend the rest of the money as reimbursement for a microscope; this was approved so the city was reimbursed for something it already had purchased.

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

ITEM #6 – Submitted by Jane E. Cullen, P.E.**RESOLUTION OF NECESSITY FOR THE WARREN STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

Budgetary Information: The engineer's estimate for the total project cost including engineering, inspection, advertising and miscellaneous expenses is \$500,000 to be paid with capital funds in the amount of \$186,526, sewer funds in the amount of \$172,500 and community development block grant funds in the amount of \$140,974.

RESOLUTION NO. 003-15R: It is requested a resolution be passed **declaring the necessity for the city to proceed with the proposed Warren Street improvement project; approving the specifications and engineer's estimate of cost thereof; and directing the city manager to advertise for and receive bids in relation thereto;** and declaring that this resolution shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Upon motion of Jeff Smith and second of Dick Brady the commission voted to approve this resolution under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: Dick Brady said this project is going to give the city a very interesting look at the section of Warren Street between Washington and Market Streets which would not be appropriate everywhere, but will be at this location. Aaron Klein said this concept was created by previous engineers and planners so Warren Street could be utilized as a match for the Sandusky Cabinets demolition project. The plan is to use previous ideas to finalize the layout and from east to west (Market to Water Streets) will include 5' sidewalks with curb and gutter, a full driving lane, and a rain garden to meet the EPA request for green infrastructure. There will be a lane with parallel parking, curb and gutter improvements and a bicycle lane on the west side of Warren Street. It is hoped this layout will stretch for a few more blocks and include the area of Huron Park. Dennis Murray said this area of Warren Street is very wide, is glad to see the city is taking advantage of this, and asked where we might go in the future to finish out the rest of this street. Eric Wobser said the 2005 Master Plan, as well as the recent projects done by the Kent State University's School of Architecture, recommended improvements to Warren Street in this area because of the road width and the opportunity for multi-modal, pedestrian and bike pathways. Also, as an unintended consequence, this park area cuts through a strong residential area where currently cars go through at a very fast speed. If the existing roadway (Warren Street) were potentially utilized for Route 6 - which was recommended in 2005 - as a route into downtown, this would create a slower traffic presence to help revitalize Huron Park. Additionally, this would be a traffic calming mechanism to historical residential neighborhoods along Monroe, Adams, Madison, Jefferson, Washington, Market and Water Streets which can potentially be very strong neighborhoods in the future. As the city begins to do its own Master Planning, we want to build upon this project in leveraging dollars for the Sandusky Cabinets project.

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

ITEM #7 – Submitted by Aaron M. Klein**SUBMISSION OF MS4 GENERAL PERMIT TO THE OHIO EPA**

Budgetary Information: None.

ORDINANCE NO. 15-004: It is requested an ordinance be passed **authorizing and directing the city manager to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Board of Commissioners of Erie County, members of Council of the City of Vermilion, members of Council of the Village of Bay View, Board of Trustees of Margaretta Township and Board of Trustees of Perkins Township relating to the small MS4 general permit;** 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 under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: Julie Farrar said this is under Section 14 of the Charter as there are only ten days from the signing of the MOU to get this document to the EPA.

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

ITEM #8 – Submitted by Aaron M. Klein, P.E.

2015 PAVEMENT CONDITION RATING INSPECTION PROJECT

Budgetary Information: The estimated amount of the consultant fee for professional design services is \$38,916.40 to be paid with capital funds.

ORDINANCE NO. 15-005: It is requested an ordinance be **passed authorizing and directing the city manager to enter into an agreement for professional services with Transmap Corporation of Upper Arlington, Ohio, for the 2015 pavement condition rating inspection project;** 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 under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: Aaron Klein said this will allow the city to plan for road reconstruction and resurfacing over the next four to five years. In the past, the city has walked the streets every few years and rated them based upon visual criteria. With new technologies, the company chosen through the professional RFQ process will utilize a van to look at every street from curb to curb and allow us to better rate and analyze roads for future planning projects. This is usually good for the first year although some roads may deteriorate quicker, but the data can be used for several years. City funds are tied up with larger projects which have been planned for several years ahead and this will allow the city to do more road resurfacing projects with this report, and will allow us to apply for OPWC and other grant opportunities for 2016 forward. Dennis Murray said this is an objective rating system and he does not think roads should be improved based upon personal whim or the whim of a commissioner or staff member.

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

ITEM #9 – Submitted by Dave Degnan, Fire Chief

APPROVING AND ADOPTING UPDATED ERIE COUNTY NATURAL HAZARDS MITIGATION PLAN

Budgetary Information: This item has no budgetary consequence with the exception that in the future, the city will be eligible for federal and state mitigation funding.

RESOLUTION NO. 004-15R: It is requested a resolution be passed **approving and adopting the updated Erie County natural hazards mitigation plan, authorizing participation by city representatives in the mitigation core group;** and declaring that this resolution shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Upon motion of Jeff Smith and second of Scott Schell the commission voted to approve this resolution under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: Dave Degnan said this plan update is for the Erie County Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan approved in 2005. The plan is for potential natural hazards, such as flooding, which could happen in Erie County and this is the first time it has been updated since adopted. This is an in depth plan and several jurisdictions in Erie County participate and although there is no cost, the city would not be eligible for any federal emergency agency disaster funds and we need to be a part of it. Paul Ricci and Jim Green were involved in the update.

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

ITEM #10 – Submitted by John Orzech, Police Chief

PURCHASE OF 55 BODYVISION CAMERAS, SOFTWARE, HARDWARE AND ACCESSORIES

Budgetary Information: The total cost of the 55 BodyVISION cameras, software, hardware and accessories will be paid through a donation to the City of Sandusky Police Department from the Randolph J. & Estelle M. Dorn Foundation in an amount not to exceed \$35,972.08. There will be no impact on the police department budget or general fund.

ORDINANCE NO. 15-006: It is requested an ordinance be passed **authorizing and directing the city manager to purchase 55 BodyVISION cameras, including software, hardware and accessories from L3 Mobile-Vision, Inc. of Boonton, New Jersey for the Sandusky Police Department;** 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 Julie Farrar the commission voted to approve this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: John Orzech thanked the Dorn Foundation for this most generous offer as they approached the police department about assisting by providing these funds. This is a national topic and these cameras will be provided by the same company which already provides us with audio and video software to make the transition user-friendly for the officers. Several body cameras were tested and there is a wide variety available, but the download capacity was the most critical thing for Sandusky. There are docking ports for this particular camera which automatically transfers information/data to the server similar to how cruiser cameras currently operate and this does not leave room for human error through the download and transfer. John Orzech said in two to three years, the department will be due for new cruiser cameras and it has been recommended to switch to high definition. This will require a higher capacity of storage on the server, but this purchase means we will not have to spend money in a few years for a new one. This will be a great asset now, and better for the department in the future. John Orzech said he and Don Icsman are working through the policy and procedures for the cameras utilizing the national best practices adopted by the Fraternal Order of Police. John Orzech said he is looking forward to getting this moving and said the body cameras should be made available in February. There was a January release for the data transfer and storage and will be the “latest and greatest” of what is available at that time. Eric Wobser said this is an important first step for initiatives being made by the police department and the national backdrop taking place. This shows there has been a lot of diligence on behalf of the Chief, Naomi Twine and the commissioners, and he looks forward to working together on the other initiatives.

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

ITEM #11 – Submitted by Matt Lasko, Chief Development Officer

CONSULTING CONTRACT WITH SCOTT MULARONI AND JOHN FEICK FOR ALTERNATE BUILDING OFFICIAL AND ALTERNATE PLANS REVIEWER ACTIVITIES

Budgetary Information: Mr. Mularoni and Mr. Feick will be paid at the rate of \$55/hour for work performed up to a maximum of \$5,000 for Mr. Feick and up to a maximum of \$10,000 for Mr. Mularoni. The cost of these contracts will be paid with the building division operating budget. A portion of the plan review expense will be paid by the collection of plan review fees by the department of community development.

- A. **ORDINANCE NO. 15-007**: It is requested an ordinance be passed **authorizing and directing the city manager to enter into a consulting contract with Scott J. Mularoni for CY 2015; 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 Jeff Smith the commission voted to approve this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: Matt Lasko said the State Board of Building Standards allows agencies to contract duties of the Chief Building Official and the Plan Reviewer. When George Poulos has a conflict of interest, this will allow the city to provide services through contract, and is a continuation from last year at the same prices/cost.

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

- B. **ORDINANCE NO. 15-008**: It is requested an ordinance be passed **authorizing and directing the city manager to enter into a consulting contract with John A. Feick for CY 2015; 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 Scott Schell the commission voted to approve this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the city charter. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Julie Farrar, Scott Schell, Jeff Smith, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine, Wesley Poole and Dick Brady, 7. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Julie Farrar, Scott Schell, Jeff Smith, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine, Wesley Poole and Dick Brady, 7. The President declared the ordinance passed.

ITEM #12 – Submitted by Kelly L. Kresser, CMC & Commission Clerk

A request has been received from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control for a new D5J liquor permit (*Spirituos liquor for on premises consumption only, beer, wine and mixed beverages for on premises, or off premises in original sealed containers, until 2:30 a.m. in a Community Entertainment District*) for Barrel House LLC dba Barrel House Saloon, 101 East Shoreline Drive, Sandusky. It is requested the commission clerk notify the Ohio Division of Liquor Control the city has no objection to this request.

Upon motion of Julie Farrar and second of Wesley Poole, the commission voted for the commission clerk to notify the Ohio Division of Liquor Control the city has no objection to this request. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Julie Farrar, Scott Schell, Jeff Smith, Naomi Twine, Wesley Poole and Dick Brady, 6. Abstain: Dennis Murray, 1. The President declared the motion passed.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Eric Wobser said there are a lot of people in Sandusky who are concerned for **the family of A.J. Fresch**, and asked if anyone has information about his whereabouts to call the police department non-emergency number at 419.627.5863. The police department is working very hard on this case and asking for any information available. Their Facebook page has had over 75,000 hits already which shows the power of social media; Eric Wobser said he hopes A. J. comes home soon.

Eric Wobser introduced **McKenzie Spriggs who will be sharing Administrative Assistant duties with him and Kelly Kresser**. Historically both the City Manager and Clerk office had an Administrative Assistant and it makes much more sense and is more efficient financially to share this position; McKenzie will be a great addition to the staff.

Upon motion of Wesley Poole and second of Jeff Smith, the commission voted to accept a donation from Hank Solowiej and his family in memory of Don Schwanger in the amount of \$25 for the Parks & Recreation fund. The President declared the motion passed.

Upon motion of Naomi Twine and second of Julie Farrar, the commission voted to accept a donation from the Randolph J. & Estelle M. Dorn Foundation in the amount of \$35,972.08 for the purchase of body cameras for the police department. The President declared the motion passed.

Dennis Murray said in February, **the commission plans to recognize Don Schwanger and Barry Riddle** after both families have had a chance to complete their private grieving.

Eric Wobser said staff is recommending the city issue, as soon as this week, a **Request for Proposals (RFP) for a strategic planning process as well as to provide an update for the Comprehensive Master Plan for the City of Sandusky**. Eric Wobser said when he was hired as the city manager, one of the things he was asked to do is to begin this process although the first six months of his tenure were dedicated toward the passage of Issue 8. Eric Wobser said he is hopeful we will bring the necessary resources to the city because of the passage of Issue 8 and we have also been provided with an opportunity to determine how best to invest these dollars. We need to update our infrastructure, invest in economic development, invest in our housing stock and eliminate blight from the community. In addition to the Issue 8 dollars and how we spend them, it is important to create a Bicentennial Commission to celebrate Sandusky's 200th birthday in 2018. There is nothing better to galvanize a community than around such a milestone and our hope is to create a strong mission for the City of Sandusky for the next five years and wrap this around the Bicentennial celebration and make large community goals to implement during and before the Bicentennial. The planning process will entail asking for qualifications of different firms to help us with the facets including engaging in touching over thousands of members of the community with the creation of this plan using surveys, meetings and focus groups, one-on-one interviews and a social media presence. Eric Wobser said we hope to have a recruiting campaign to let people know how they can participate in the planning process because any plan developed solely by staff, or even the commission, without stakeholder input will likely just sit on a shelf. With the Bicentennial approaching and the new Issue 8 dollars, we want to get this excitement and buy-in from the community and will start with the community engagement process. We will use this community feedback while working with the consultants, the steering committee members and staff to put together a plan everybody can use for at least the next five years. Eric Wobser asked the members of the commission to participate in the selection committee process so the city can ultimately enter into a contract with the successful firm. The commission will need to put together a broad-based steering committee including neighborhood stakeholders, businesses, non-profit organizations, partners in government and others. Eric Wobser said he is excited about this process and noted this is important foundational work that continues the momentum of Issue 8 and prepares Sandusky to celebrate its Bicentennial. Dennis Murray asked the commissioners if they have comments or questions and said he hopes they will review the document. Eric Wobser said he would like to issue the RFP by the end of the week and then have a three-week period for consultants to respond. Dick Brady said he does not intend to put words in Eric's mouth, but said there have been many discussions about this process and its direction and this is where it all begins. We have direction from our citizens through the levy recently passed which said they are allowing the city to move forward, but we need this plan. He does not want to do one more study to put on a shelf, but this will not happen here; this is our pledge this will **not** happen here and he expects citizens to put the commissioners' feet to the fire and make this happen. Dennis Murray said he and Dick Brady had a conversation not too long ago about questions people asked during the campaign as to how the money would be spent and this process will be the plan. It will be shaped by all members of the community who wish to voice their opinion. Eric Wobser and the consultant will help provide opportunities and input from the community. The commissioners are not in a particular rush to spend this money, rather we need to develop a plan first and we do have a lot of overdue capital improvements which some of the money may be used for. Dennis Murray said staff indicates we will have the budget to consider at the first meeting in February and this is a marked contrast from the past and will give the public time for consideration.

Eric Wobser distributed information with an update to the city's organizational chart which goes back to one prepared approximately two years ago. The most major noticeable change is

going back to a dual Department of Public Services and a Department of Public Works according to the city's historic model. Two years ago and due to financial constraints, the position of Public Services became vacant and was not filled by the city commission. Aaron Klein has done an amazing job doing both the work of the City Engineer as well as the Director of Public Services while he was a new employee to the city, although they both know this is not a sustainable model. There needs to be management on a day-to-day basis which we currently do not have. In 2014, the city posted the position of Deputy City Engineer to assist Aaron Klein with project management but we had a hard time trying to fill this position and it became apparent part of the reason this position was necessary was due in large part because of the overwhelming responsibilities when all of these service departments reported to Aaron Klein on a day-to-day basis. The capital improvement plan will invest over \$1 million in new infrastructure as well as a lot of big changes in water and sewer thus prompting the city to fill the position of Public Works Director. Eric Wobser said he and Aaron Klein began talking about who could fill this position several months ago and there was one candidate who is particularly ready for this role. Brad Link has been with the City of Sandusky for over 16 years with roles in the service departments and currently works in Water Distribution as the Chief Foreman. It has been decided to transition Brad into the new position of Public Service Director and out of the role of Chief Foreman. Aaron Klein will then be making changes in Water Distribution and ultimately developing a capital improvement plan throughout the course of 2015. Wesley Poole said it has been a good six months since Eric Wobser got here and said we are moving along in the right direction. Wesley Poole said he works along with the new employees and is paying attention to the staff reaction to how things are going. Wesley Poole said he wants the citizens to know the manager is leading us through this planning process – it is very good and he looks forward to seeing results as we move forward. There are a lot of good things happening here and hopefully the community will take note and be supportive. Wesley Poole said he appreciates Eric Wobser and likes having somebody else who talks as much as he does before actually getting to the point. Dennis Murray said in observing the city's operations over the last year, and with the addition of Eric Wobser and Matt Lasko, these may be the two biggest glaring holes in the city structure/administration. There has been way too much worked piled on Aaron Klein, who works an incredible amount of hours incredibly efficiently, but it is humanly impossible to direct this large of a number of employees and their activities. It is good we are going back to the structure we had before and he realizes we got to where we are because of budget cuts and is appreciative of the fact the voters have seen fit to provide us with the resources to properly run this city. Eric Wobser said Aaron Klein took on additional responsibilities without complaining and produced results in very efficient ways and thanked him (Aaron) for his service. Eric Wobser said he looks forward to seeing what Aaron can accomplish with the increased capacity his team will have in partnering with other directors.

Eric Wobser said there are numerous **Emergency Snow Streets** within the City of Sandusky and parking is banned on these streets during and following snow events when accumulations exceed two inches. A complete listing of the city's Emergency Snow Streets can be found on the city's homepage and we ask residents to keep these routes clear of parked vehicles as they have high volumes of traffic and are important transportation routes for our citizens.

Eric Wobser said in the new **Serving Our Seniors** magazine, **Officers Mook and Allen were featured in a story about elder abuse** and how to recognize this.

Upon motion of Wes Poole and second of Jeff Smith, the commission voted to consent to the City Manager's reappointment of George Steinemann to the Erie County Board of Health for a term ending December 31, 2019. The President declared the motion passed.

Upon motion of Naomi Twine and second of Julie Farrar, the commission voted to consent to the City Manager's reappointment of Gary Guendelsberger as a regular member of the Housing Appeals Board for a term ending December 31, 2017. The President declared the motion passed.

Upon motion of Scott Schell and second of Jeff Smith, the commission voted to consent to the City Manager's reappointment of Mike Meinzer as an alternate member of the Housing Appeals Board for a term ending December 31, 2017. The President declared the motion passed.

Eric Wobser advised the commission he has **reappointed Mark Dunn, John Luipold, John Zoellner and Dave Swander to the Plumber Examining Board for terms ending December 31, 2015.**

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

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

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

Upon motion of Wesley Poole and second of Julie Farrar, the commission voted to appoint the following persons to a six month term, or through June 30, 2015 (as outlined below):

ADA Advisory Board

Robert Egger, Martha Thompson and Kathleen Wickens

Audit/Finance Committee

Dan Moncher, Brian Allen and Jim Ruthsatz

Board of Zoning Appeals

William Semans

Cemetery Board

Tom Darden, Kevin Zeiher, Andy Martin and Matt Leser

Electrician Examining Board

Dan Fresch, Dan Hartleib, Kenneth Tunnell and Steve Rucker

Erie Regional Planning Commission

David Miller (*Member*) and John Panzer (*Alternate*)

Human Relations Commission

Dan Leavell, Sr.

Planning Commission

Jim Jackson

Recreation Board

Jason Werling and Barbara Rose

Sandusky Tree Commission

John Parker and Cynthia Ball

Discussion: Dennis Murray said he and Naomi Twine have been considering how to better engage people in this process and discussing whether some boards can be consolidated which is a longer term process than initially anticipated. There is thought about changing some of the terms or creating term limits as rotation is sometimes a good thing. Dennis Murray asked for

the commission to approve the reappointment of these persons, as outlined, for a period of six months, until specific recommendations can be made.

The President declared the motion passed.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Sharon Johnson, 1139 Fifth Street, said she was downtown to look at the street lights and a lot of them are still off, especially on Columbus Avenue near Daly's Pub. Sharon Johnson asked what the goal is to finish replacing these lights. Dick Brady said he does not mean to speak for Aaron Klein, but the goal is to get them replaced as soon as practical. Last week we accomplished nothing due to weather, but we have received an additional four dozen lamps and although not the highest priority of the city, it is a priority. Aaron Klein said this is weather dependent and we are working on it, but are down to one person in this department who is pulling others when available. Wesley Poole asked if the city is only responsible for the lights downtown and Aaron Klein said this is the case and there is a link on the city's website to report other outages directly to Ohio Edison/First Energy. Wes Poole asked if there is a bulb replacement policy or if the city just waits until a bulb goes out to replace it. Aaron Klein said in the winter, it is easier to know when bulbs are out as there is a shorter period of daylight. In the summer, the employees would have to come in on overtime to determine this. Several times they walk streets and flag the poles and then replace bulbs in groups rather than one by one.

Nark Norman, 1016 Third Street, said he is excited about what is happening, how we are moving forward. The methodical steps being taken to move forward are inspiring and at certain times, he wants to clap for the decisions being made.

The President announced a recess of the regular session at 6:07 p.m. At 6:15 p.m., the commission went into executive session. At 7:10 p.m., the President announced adjournment of the meeting.

Kelly L. Kresser, CMC
Clerk of the City Commission

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