

**MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING**  
**March 4, 2008**

The Regular Meeting of City Council was called to order at 7:30pm by Mayor Domenick Mucci, Jr. who presided. The meeting was opened with a silent prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Councilmen DiLoreto, Fortunato, Lalich, Metcalf, Perkins, Stasiulewicz, and Chanoski. Also present were Law Director S. Gary Repella, Police Chief Bill McCafferty, Health Commissioner Patty Reda, Parks and Recreation Director Dwan Johnson, Urban Projects Director Chris Petrossi, Finance Director Mike Marshall, Accounting Administrator Alyssa Kerker, M&R Superintendent Joe DeSantis, Water/Wastewater Superintendent Rocky Augustine, and Building Inspector Jim Ferris.

Roll call was taken. All present and accounted for declared Mayor Mucci.

**APPROVAL/CORRECTION OF MINUTES**

Mr. Chanoski moved that the minutes of February 5, 2008, February 12, 2008, February 19, 2008 and February 26, 2008 be accepted as written. Second by Mr. Lalich. Roll call. All ayes. So moved minutes accepted.

**PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

None

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

Mr. Chanoski moved that the rule requiring all ordinances and resolutions to be read in their entirety be suspended and that all ordinances and resolutions be read by caption only with the exception of Resolution Nos. 2008-15, 2008-16 and 2008-17. Second by Mr. Lalich. Roll call. All ayes. So moved rule suspended.

Mr. Chanoski moved that we deviate from the rules and pull forward Resolution Nos. 2008-15, 2008-16, and 2008-17. Second by Mr. Lalich. Roll call. All ayes. So moved.

**2008-15 – BY THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE**

**A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MARCH, 2008 AS MENTAL RETARDATION AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH.**

Mr. Fortunato moved that Resolution No. 2008-15 be adopted by roll call. Second by Mr. Perkins. Roll call. All ayes. So moved Resolution No. 2008-15 duly adopted declared Mayor Mucci.

Mr. Fortunato presented Resolution No. 2008-15 to Mike Mehalik of MRDD who thanked the City for the honor.

**2008-16 – BY THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE**

**A RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION TO THE STEUBENVILLE HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS SWIMMING AND DIVING TEAMS.**

Mr. Chanoski moved that Resolution No. 2008-16 be adopted by roll call. Second by Mr. Lalich. Roll call. All ayes. So moved Resolution No. 2008-16 duly adopted declared Mayor Mucci.

Mr. Chanoski presented Resolution No. 2008-16 to four of the members of the boys and girls teams saying, "On behalf of City Council and all the citizens of Steubenville I'd like to thank you for coming and congratulate you on a great season. Some of you might be wondering why there's three guys up here for the girls achievements but swimming is one of those unique sports where the girls and the guys practice and they compete together. There's not very many sports like that. These are the four seniors that led both of the boys and the girls teams this year and they stick together, it has nothing to do with whether they're on the boys team or the girls team, they're one big team trying to accomplish the same goal. I looked into Steubenville High School Swim Team a little bit and realized they've been up for twelve years now and in that time the boys have won ten large school OVAC championships and the girls have won seven or rather, the girls have won ten and the boys have won seven in twelve years. That's awfully dominating performance athletically and we were all accustomed to dominating athletic performances here in Steubenville, this is one of em were going to hear about another one here in a second. So, again, congratulations and a job well done."

Gillian, "I just want to thank the City of Steubenville for being behind us and for this honor."

**2008-17 – BY THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE**

**A RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION TO THE CATHOLIC CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL SWIMMING AND DIVING TEAMS.**

Mr. Metcalf moved that Resolution No. 2008-17 be adopted by roll call. Second by Mr. Fortunato. Roll call. All ayes. So moved Resolution No. 2008-17 duly adopted declared Mayor Mucci.

Mr. Metcalf presented to Judy Lucas and team members saying, "Jude as you've heard, football has been dominating but quietly swimming at both Steubenville High School and Steubenville Central has been dominating the OVAC and were proud to have both teams here this evening. These young gentlemen and lady here have represented your high school in this city tremendously over the last four years and beyond in OVAC

competition. And as a City, as Administration, as a Council, were extremely proud of all of you and all your efforts and we wish you lots of luck continued each year in swimming and academics.”

Ms. Lucas, “We’d like to take the opportunity to thank Mayor Mucci and members of Council and our citizens in the City of Steubenville. What a wonderful thing we have, it is a quiet sport and as you say, were not the ones that go out there and bring in the games where people come but the pride that we have and the leadership and skills that these young people take forward with them. This is my representatives of the Seniors. I have two record holders here Mr. Stephen Homol and Brandon Albarano in the breast stroke and the fifty free and they have broken records this year and its just been an awesome season for them. Mr. Nick Skiviat and Alex Arricio have also been members of the team for at least three years and we look forward to continuing and having a great success hopefully that we’ve had. Thank you again for the honor.”

Mr. Skiviat and Mr. Homol thanked for the support.

Ms. Homol thanked all for the honor and support.

Mayor Mucci, “I want to take this opportunity. We passed two resolutions honoring both High Schools this evening but let me say that being an elected official and a representative of the City how proud I am of both High Schools but more so proud of the youth of our community. Let alone participating in this particular activity you have time and time again shown us your worth to our community. I do want to say that as you go through life don’t forget that your actually an ambassador of our community. Continue to represent us well and continued good luck in the future.”

#### **ORDINANCE NO. 2008-14 – BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**Messrs. Lalich, Fortunato, Metcalf**

#### **AN ORDINANCE REPEALING THE EXISTING TABLE OF ORGANIZATION OF THE CITY OF STEUBENVILLE, OHIO AND NOW ENACTING A TBALE OF ORGANIZATION FOR ALL EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Mr. Lalich moved that the rule requiring an ordinance or resolution to be read on three separate occasions be suspended and that Ordinance No. 2008-14 be given its second and third reading tonight for this bodies passage or rejection. Second by Mr. Fortunato. Roll call. All ayes. So moved rule suspended. The Clerk read Ordinance No. 2008-14. Mayor Mucci asked if anyone wished to speak on the ordinance and there was no one. Mr. Lalich called question. Roll call. All ayes. So moved Ordinance No. 2008-14 duly adopted declared Mayor Mucci.

#### **REPORT OF COMMITTEES**

Mr. DiLoreto – no report

Mr. Fortunato – no report

Mr. Lalich – no report

Mr. Metcalf – no report

Mr. Perkins – “Just a reminder that the Steubenville Recreation Board will meet on Wednesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>.”

Mr. Stasiulewicz – nothing

Mr. Chanoski – nothing

#### **ADMINISTRATIVER OFFICERS REPORTS**

Mr. Repella – no report

Mr. DeSantis – “I’d like to take one minute to congratulate the drivers in the Street and Sanitation Department over the last month for the long hours they have put in fighting the snow and ice that we’ve had and I did have to use people from Sanitation. They did a great job with the limited amount of material that we did receive. However we do have some salt on the ground in the event that we do get another storm but the conserved very well, they concentrated on the main routes and the hills and hospital routes like we instructed them to and it worked out quite well. Secondly, the pothole situation now that were in is absolutely devastating. We worked all day Sunday, we worked over yesterday and weather permitting we’re doing all we can. Even today we tried to patch a few in the rain. There’s two different procedures that are done. In the winter time with cold mix, what you do is you merely go out you put the cold mix in the hole, the holes are uneven, you roll it in and you hope that it stays. With the freeze and the thaw of the water, nine out of ten times it doesn’t stay. The process we use in the summer time, we have a machine that squares the hole out. Once the hole is squared out we tack coat the bottom of the hole, we put hot-mix in it, the hole is squared, we role it, and then we tack coat the top of the hole and consequently that stays. What were doing now is were fighting a loosing battle if you will but we’ll continue to do that. I’ve been in contact with Tri-State Asphalt, they’ll let me know immediately as soon as they start making hot-mix, that could be at any time. That could be a month from now it could be next week they’re not sure but they’ll let me know and when that happens, weather permitting, we’ll start our regular summer procedure in potholes and they will stay, till then, once we get decent enough weather we’ll continue to cold patch. Try to bear with us because they’re everywhere and were trying to concentrate mainly on the main routes. Were going to have two crews tomorrow if the weather permits, one crew with a smaller truck in the

subdivisions and the other crew out on the main routes again. Were going to handle it all it just may take awhile. Thank you.”

Mayor, “On behalf of the administration and this council we understand the hard work that the employees of your department’s putting in on the removal of the snow and we surely do appreciate it because most of the time the members of Council are on the from lines receiving the call from the citizens. So we do appreciate that effort and we also want to encourage our citizens to drive safely and be aware of the potholes out there. This time of the year with the freezing and the thawing and as much water as were getting your absolutely correct a cold patch will not last and its only a temporary solution and soon as we can we will start fixing potholes with the correct method but until the hot mix is available we cant. So we want to encourage our citizens to drive with extra caution especially when its raining and the potholes may be filled with water and they can’t recognize that it is a pothole.”

### **MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS**

Mr. DiLoreto – “”First of all I want to say thanks to the Chief. We hired Patrolman Shawn Scott, he’s been in my Ward probably all week and were not picking on anyone, were getting good feedback from what I understand. Were not picking on any landlords, we own property there, we also find out that the State owns property there. Terrace Ave. looks pretty clean now we can just hope maybe some of those people up there will put a little bit on paint on there. Now they’re going after the violations. Everybody’s doing their job, I want everybody in the same row boat, rowing the same way and getting the town cleaned up whether its my job or anybody’s job I don’t want any more excuses. Chris also is working on Arlington, he’s coming down Labelle, Pleasant Heights, my neighborhood, he’s checking on every house, every garage, every alley and sending out citations to everybody and I think they’re finally getting the word that we mean business and that’s the good part. I’m reading in the paper now where they finally sold the housing projects up the college and now they want to buy another housing project downtown Steubenville. First of all as far as I’m concerned I don’t want any more public housing in the City of Steubenville. We have eighty-thousand people in this County, nineteen thousand in Steubenville, that accounts for approximately one-fourth or 23%. I think we got more then half or 60% of the public housing and part of that half is in my Ward. If there’s any more public housing as far as I’m concerned it should to to Jefferson County, not Steubenville, this is Jefferson County and I expect those same people that were down here two weeks complaining about liquor to get involved and don’t put their heads underneath and lets get this all spread apart, they have to do intervention inspections and so forth. So if this comes down I think we’ve had our share and I think Parkview Circle right now is pretty good since I was in Council the first time when we probably had about a 1,000 police cars up there. I think now there’s probably two or three a year. Thank you.”

Mr. Perkins – “I just want to follow upon with you and Mr. DeSantis. I caught a little bit of Channel 9’s report on our lack of salt in the City of Steubenville. It’s no fault of Joe DeSantis or this City. The salt is ordered. If the salt doesn’t get delivered it’s not our fault. Maybe instead of standing in an alley that we don’t plow in the first place and getting your picture on TV and staying the City’s out of salt. Maybe you ought to go out and watch these trucks work, watch these guys work fourteen, sixteen hours to get these streets cleaned. I was in Columbus Wednesday, Thursday, Friday last week, there’s not a City around Columbus and including Columbus, that had salt. But watching their news stations it was no big deal. They made a positive thing out of it by saying the crews are working hard to clean the streets without salt, just be a little more careful out there. Why can’t we get that here from our TV station? I’m sick and tired everything we try to do is negative and Joe’s taken the brunt of a lot of it and to me, excuse me people, its bullshit, and I’ve had it and maybe its time we quit talking to them until they start telling this City, hey, you are doing something good around here instead of continually getting on Joe DeSantis and not buying salt. Thank you.”

Mr. Metcalf – “I agree with Rick and what he said, but we also need to send congratulations to the Police Chief, the Police Department who in the last two weeks have made several major drug busts and like Mr. Perkins said, the lack of salt made the major news not the fact that our police officers are out there working their butts off doing their job. So congratulations once again, were behind your department, we know they’re doing a great job. Job well done. Thank you your honor.”

### **PUBLIC FORUM**

Mayor Mucci, “Is there anyone wishing to speak to City Council on City business please come forward and state their name and address.”

William C. Watson, 1618 State St. – “Citizens do respect the work that was done on the street and even with the negative of not having the salt in poured in our mind over and over again we still feel that our City workers did a great job. There is some of us that really understand what they did and even laying in my bed in the

middle of the night I could hear the salt trucks or saltless trucks, whatever it took to scrape the streets at work and I appreciate it and I thank you.”

Mayor, “Before we have adjournment I just want to tell Council that in your folders this evening there’s a draft letter to the District Deputy Director of ODOT, Richard Bible about the removal of the Fort Steuben Bridge. Please review that communication. If you have any suggestions before I send that out then please get ahold of me sometime tomorrow if not Thursday morning I would like this to be facilitated and out in the mail on Thursday.”

Mr. DeSantis – “I want to thank Tom (inaudible) from the State of Ohio Department of Highways in Wintersville who gave us seventy-five tons of salt one night when we desperately needed it.”

Mr. Fortunato – “I want to reiterate, I got your paper a little early about the bridge and the bridge closing. I think the people better realize when you close the bridge and have no entrance or no anything going down Route 7 North or South and no way to get off and no way to get on there is going to be hell. And I think its just being shoved under the rug and I think that somebody better do something about it before its too late. You can’t take a bridge out, knock this think out, put nothing down, no ingress, no egress, no anything, you just can’t have that and I don’t know who’s fault it is but it should be looked.”

Mayor, “Next week after everyone gets an opportunity to review this letter I did plan on updating City Council. We did have two stake holder meetings on the removal of the Fort Steuben Bride on January 29<sup>th</sup> and also on February 20<sup>th</sup> and there will be a public meeting held on March 19<sup>th</sup> at the Jefferson Community College but I would like Council to review this to begin with and then I’ll continue to update this. I know our City Engineer and myself and also Mr. Petrossi attended the last stakeholders meeting and we have a lot of input and we would like the State to recognize that and were starting to get that attention.”

Mr. Fortunato moved to adjourn the meeting. Second by Mr. Lulich.

Roll call. All ayes. So moved meeting adjourned declared Mayor Mucci.

Pamela L. Orlando  
Clerk of Council

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
CLERK OF COUNCIL

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR