

**MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING**  
**March 21, 2017**

The Regular Meeting of City Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. with Council at Large Kimberly Hahn presiding. The meeting was opened with a silent prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Councilmen Dressel, Hahn, Johnson, Paul, Timmons, Villamagna and DiLoreto.

Also present; City Manager James Mavromatis, Law Director Gary Repella, Police Chief Bill McCafferty, Engineer Mike Dolak, M&R Director Bob Baird, Dave Gossett from the Herald Star and WTOV9.

**APPROVAL/CORRECTION OF MINUTES**

Mr. Paul moved that the minutes of March 14, 2017 be accepted as written. Second by Mr. Johnson. Roll call. All ayes. So moved minutes accepted declared Mrs. Hahn.

**PETITIONS/COMMUNICATIONS**

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

**NO. 2017-18 – BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE – 2<sup>nd</sup> reading**

**Messrs. Paul, Johnson, Dressel**

**ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES WITHOUT A PURCHASE ORDER OVER \$3,000.00 PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 5705.41.**

Mrs. Hahn – “You have heard the second reading of Ordinance No. 2017-18. The third and final reading will be March 28<sup>th</sup>.”

**NO. 2017-19 – BY THE PLANNING COMMITTEE – 2<sup>nd</sup> reading**

**Messrs. Johnson, Dressel, Hahn**

**ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A P.Y. 2017 COMMUNITY HOUSING IMPACT AND PRESERVATION (CHIP) PROGRAM APPLICATION WITH THE STATE OHIO ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF STEUBENVILLE.**

Mrs. Hahn – “You have heard the second reading of Ordinance No. 2017-19. The third and final reading will be March 28<sup>th</sup>.”

**REPORT OF COMMITTEES**

Mr. Dressel – no report

Mr. Johnson – “I would like to sunshine a resolution proclaiming April 2017 as Fair Housing Month.”

Mr. Paul – “I would like to sunshine a resolution of commendation for Patrick Wherry. Also I would like to call for an executive session following public forum to discuss Police personnel and litigation.” Second by Mr. Villamagna. Roll call. All ayes. So moved declared Mrs. Hahn.

Mr. Timmons – no report

Mr. Villamagna – no report

Mr. DiLoreto – “I want to thank Judge Mascio for all his help with the community service workers helping clean up our community.”

**REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS**

Mr. Mavromatis – “Thank you, Ma’am; tomorrow, Nicole Runco and myself are going to travel to Akron to meet with the Summit County Health Commissioner to go over how their merger took place. At the time she was the Deputy Commissioner; they’ve already sent some paperwork on their documents and we have questions; she’ll walk us through their process; and that should finish up the meetings that we need to go to. I talked to Mr. Misselwitz today; they have the figures; he is waiting for his Finance Director to return next week so they can finally give us some figures that we need to look at. And then with all this I’ll be able to brief Council. Tomorrow we have our meeting with Council and some of our Department Heads on specific topics that have been submitted; and that will be at the Inn at Franciscan Square at 3:00 until 7:00 p.m.”

Mr. Repella – no report

**MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS**

**PUBLIC FORUM**

Mrs. Hahn – “If there is anyone wishing to speak to City Council on City business please come forward and state your name and address.”

Mike Strean – “I live at 652 Longvue Drive. I’m here tonight on behalf of the Steubenville Revitalization Group to bring some of you up to speed; several years ago the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce decided to erect a sign for the entrance to the City at Washington Street and Route 7. For whatever reason that project was set aside so a little over a year ago the SRG decided we would take it over and try to move it ahead. So we are finally at a point now where we want to move ahead with the sign; the documents that you Councilmen have before you is kind of a breakdown; the first picture that you will see is the original concept drawing of the sign; pages 3 and 4 are basically this; this is sort of what the sign will look like; it’ll be a version of these two pictures. What I would like to do is I would like to request a meeting between City Manager Mavromatis, Law Director Repella, Councilwoman Hahn, Chris Petrossi and Anthony Bodo to find out here is where we were, here is where we are, where do we need to go and what is the process to get this moving along. Earlier today I sent out the same letter that is attached to some of these documents to City Manager Mavromatis and those I just mentioned requesting that meeting; the rest of you the documents are to let you see where we are and what we plan; thank you.”

Mrs. Hahn – “If there is anyone else wishing to speak to City Council on City business please come forward and state your name and address.”

Asantewa Anyabwile – “I live at 472 Spring Avenue. Two quick points; one, South End, Lincoln in the back of the projects along that hillside it is filthy, disgusting, nasty; also when you’re going up Lincoln and you make that first left all those dilapidated houses have trash back there; maybe you all can discuss about getting a crew out there. Second point; Belleview Pool; I’m glad you guys are going to maybe reconsider about closing the pool. Back in 2013 the organization that I’m involved with and also another grass roots organization along with former Councilman Davis all came together and raised the funds; we even staffed it ourselves, the City didn’t even have to staff it; it was a project that was very well received and we always heard nothing but positive feedback. If you close the pool this summer we already talked about how there is nothing for the children to do here; in terms of yes there is a football league but not every child in Steubenville plays football. We even have a free summer camp that we offer; there are a couple other summer camps; but as far as a pool, there is nothing. I did hear someone say a comment about we’re not babysitters; but if you look at jail you’ve got babysitting there except they’re grown. So if you start young and give the kids something to do you might have less people as babies to be watched as adults; I’m willing to sit down and talk with you guys and give you the ideas of what we did in order to have that successful year in 2013 to be able to keep this pool open for the kids.”

Mrs. Hahn – “If there is anyone else wishing to speak to City Council on City business please come forward and state your name and address.”

John Mascio – “I live at 567 Braybarton. I have several items I was going to bring up; I’m only going to do a couple. What the woman just said about the swimming pool and recreation in the City; I’m a firm believer that we need to have good recreational facilities in the City and anybody that talks to city planners; developers will tell you that is one of the main things that companies look into expanding or moving into a community look for what the recreational facilities are. A sliding board at the pool, I’ve got news for you; you don’t need a sliding board at the pool; if it’s hot and kids want to get cooled down they’re going to swim; you don’t need to have a sliding board or anything else for them to do it. It’s an additional expense that we really don’t need to spend. Go look at people that have private pools; you don’t see sliding boards; you see maybe a low diving board at best and that’s it; I think it’s a waste. But I wanted to comment on recreation; I was Law Director from 1972-1984; back in the seventies the City was going to embark on building the Martin Luther King Center which has been done; I was opposed to it that that time and I was criticized and called a bigot, a racist, you name it, everything for criticizing that construction. My argument was at that time, and the City had money then; the City was not taking care of its recreational facilities. We went forward and it got built, which is fine; but before it got to that point I guess to prove my point; I took pictures of the parks and playgrounds in this city; fences with holes in them at the ball fields; bleachers with broken boards and seats you couldn’t sit in; broken water fountains; dilapidated bathrooms; broken windows; toilets that didn’t work; every park in the City were all the same. Nothing has changed in all of those years; folks, I hate to tell you; recreation in the City of Steubenville is like an unwanted stepchild in this town. If you want to go ahead and do something; if you have to go ahead and condense your facilities, close some facilities; that’s fine. But the people of this town deserve something better than what we have had for as long as I can remember; it’s never changed. We talk about a nature trail which is fine from the Marina up to the Fort; first of all, the logistics don’t allow for it; Route 7 is the biggest handicap of all and the railroad tracks. Pittsburgh Magazine this month has a feature on nature trails around the Pittsburgh area; they’re all wooded areas; you’ve got Beatty Park; you want to develop an area, develop Beatty Park; it’s going to be a lot less expensive than what you’re talking about down there; you’ve got natural woodlands down there that you can go ahead and work with; look at that. We were \$600,000 in debt projected by Dave Lewis; I don’t know where we are today if it’s higher or lower or whatever it is; and I’ve still got this gripe about the \$25,000 to put the name Steubenville on that overpass between Pleasant Heights and Labelle; that’s money that does not need to be spent. Last night I was told we weren’t going to do it, CDC was going to do it; tonight I’m told no we have to do it because it’s too late to back out of it. A student I think from Central a couple years ago painted Steubenville on that old wall down there on Market Street which we have not touched since; it’s got moss on it, mold on it, dirt on it. If you want people coming down that hill to see the name Steubenville all they have to do is look to the right; you don’t have to look up and see concrete; you can look to the right and see Steubenville; accomplish the same thing; Ernie Hollinger would probably go clean it up for you for \$100 or something like that. Conserve the money and spend it where it needs to be spent; it’s an attractive wall; it does the same thing that sign on that overpass is going to do; it calls attention to the name of the City; although by the time they get to that point they should know where they are anyway. I want to get back to recreation again; you’ve got to do something about it; it’s never been taken care of; I don’t know what’s going to happen now but I really think you need to start looking

at the resources and do what you have to do to give us some decent recreational facilities in the City. This woman is right; there is nothing for the kids in this city to do and you wonder why you have crime and drugs and everything else; let's do something and give them something; thank you."

Mrs. Hahn – "Please be thinking about this; our application process ended yesterday and so now it's going to be time to interview the people who will be seriously considered for this position and we need someone in the position who is going to think of parks as you said as an economic driver; as something attractive to people coming in to the city; but far more as something that opens up all kinds of avenues of recreation for every age group; there not only isn't enough for young people; what is there in terms of recreational facilities and types of programs for people who are retired or couples who don't have children. There are all types of tournaments and opportunities we could take advantage of with the parks we have. We may really need to band together and find out ways people can volunteer or groups can come forward and do small parts of the projects. When we walked through that facility it's a treasure; it is a beautiful piece of property and people put a lot of heart into creating it; absolutely we need to be taking care of this. Beatty Park is just a beautiful natural preserve; there is so much more we can do with that. I don't think we have to say it has to be either fix the parks or work on the marina; I think we can do small things on the marina; I think we can do more on the North End Park. If you compare where we were a year ago to what it looks like now; it is beautiful; now we need to work on the ballfield and painting the fence; but we can paint the fence instead of replacing it potentially. There are ways we can cut the costs; there are ways we can go down and give a few hours of volunteer work; the youth are worth it; actually every one of us is worth having beautiful parks where we can gather together with family and friends. So pray for us and see if we can get a really good director who can take us in a new direction because I think we definitely need that; thank you for your comments."

Ray Saccoccia – "I live at 228 Pico Street. I think what has to be done in reality is once a recreation director is hired I think the recreation board must be accountable for all this too; I think it is the direction of the board; the board has to hold the recreation director accountable; I mean, whoever you hire the number one priority has to be providing activities and it doesn't take money to provide activities. I don't want to compare us to Weirton but I will; everything that Weirton does we can do and they're not spending money. What does it take to have a basketball league, a football league, a hockey league, basketball clinics; I believe this is part of the issue may lie with the recreation board in the past; the recreation people are all from Steubenville; we all grew up in a town where there were activities aplenty so we have to consider making sure the recreation board understands that the recreation director's job is to provide activities; so that's something to think about as well when you make appointments."

Mrs. Hahn – "Sure; and we can better utilize what we have. You know, last year there were no swim lessons offered at the pool; there was no aerobics for older people offered at the pool; we didn't really market the pool to be able to draw families and groups to sponsor it. What Labelle Neighbors Who Care did in the pool was wonderful and definitely we need to meet with you and find out what you did and it's not just about the money; it's also about the desire. The pool opened late last year and it closed early and we need to look; I think you're right, we also need to ask the Rec Board; would you please help us understand what are the difficulties and challenges; Mr. Baird is trying to hire new people; we've given him the go ahead and he has the funds but we need to have good people apply for those positions and get them into those positions before the grass starts growing and the weeds start growing and all of that; so we are hearing you and I think you can look forward to good things this year and to great things in time to come. If there is anyone else wishing to speak to City Council on City business please come forward and state your name and address."

Melody Walton – "I live at 543 Union Avenue and everyone knows me as Lucky. The last six years I've worked for the City in the summer; I've mostly worked passing out lunches until this past summer; I worked at the pool as assistant supervisor. Now, you brought up flowers; we took care of your flowers and helped you plant them around and stuff; now the baby pool was closed and a lot of people brought their little ones up there to have fun during the summer; well, what could I say; it's a mess. The sliding board, most of the kids wanted to come off the sliding board but when we told them it was broke they were happy just to get in the water. There were people up there that wanted like potato chips and pop and stuff; and we were talking about opening up the top, cleaning it out and stuff and selling pop and potato chips, hot dogs; where the kids were bringing extra money up there calling the pizza place and there was all these pizza guys coming in with all these pizzas; where are all these pizzas coming from; here the kids mothers were calling talking about what is this about pizzas up there; I don't know what your kids are telling you but we don't have no pop machine up there; matter of fact, we didn't have any water and the employees that I had up there brought water and we got scolded for bringing water; I'm like well there's nothing for us to drink and we have to be up there. There were plenty of times I worked twelve hours up there and I barely got a thank you; which it didn't bother me like this summer; if you need somebody to work up there; I'm willing to work for nothing up there because our kids here in Steubenville need somewhere to go; unlike everybody else; if you don't next thing you'll know is we're going to have more drugs in Steubenville than what we want and more of our little kids are going to be out selling like we're in New York or Detroit or somewhere. I don't want to see that happen at all because I love every little kid. We had the year before that I worked out the North End ballfield; I had to call the police I don't know how many times for out there; there was people out there that wasn't from Steubenville; they were from Weirton; they were from Follansbee; going into the bathrooms doing drugs. The Police had to come one time this guy had the dog and I was sitting there like what are they doing in there; here the guy had overdosed in the bathroom; there was a little young girl about 16 called herself she was his, he was her boyfriend; and she was like I don't know why he did them drugs and she was standing there being guard. The one police officer act like he was scared to go in the bathroom and I'm there like go in there; he never came out; and I'm watching and I'm the one who called them; so when he went in there he

found him out; and I'm like this is getting to be ridiculous. Like the other night I drove past North End ballfield; there was people sitting under the shelter there drinking. This is getting to be really ridiculous. I rather my grandkids and great-grandkids go to Columbus and if I got to send them money to enjoy themselves in Columbus I would but I'd rather them be here because this is where they came from and this is where I came from. But like I said I'm willing to go up there and do anything to keep that pool open because our kids need to go somewhere." Mrs. Hahn – "If there is anyone else wishing to speak to City Council on City business please come forward and state your name and address."

Regina Blanchard – "I live at 153 North Fifth Street. It's been a while since I've been here. I wanted to address Asantewa. They did do a really good job of fundraising for the pool but I also want to address the part about Beatty Park; how I've been down there and I think it is a beautiful landscaping and I think if you consider like that dirt down there it's like dead land; and I think if you consider tilling that and maybe bringing some landscape people in I think it could be redone. In order to change the city that we live in you have to have somebody that has vision. You can't just say you want to bring people in here and you don't have vision, you don't have a clue of what's going on. This city; I did some research and it was a city built around family; it wasn't built around culture; it was built around family. I think we as a people have walked away from what we are really supposed to be representing. The young people are looking at us and we're fighting amongst each other, we're arguing about stupid stuff; they're looking at us; we're the examples. Yes we have drugs; that's everywhere; we have children that are out of control; there is no color to that; the problem is this community has to come together and we have to stop this pointing the finger; we are in this together and that is basically what I wanted to say. The young people don't have anything to do like everybody said; it's up to us to create things for them to do; not just sports; because if you have a small IQ and you play sports what good is it going to do when you leave sports and go out in to the world. Our job is to prepare our young people for the world and we're not doing that because we're too busy arguing and fussing. So if we could just come together and get the parks together; create jobs, opportunities; not just Franciscan College; not just this group; but let's work together for everybody; because if you don't; I said this a while back when the Mayor was up at the Chamber office; we are going to lose our children; what is more important to you; pointing the finger or losing our children? And again, it's not a black thing, a white thing, Franciscan or whatever; it's all of us; that's all I have to say; thank you."

Mrs. Hahn – "I'm hoping when we work on this website which should be rolled out soon and then we'll continue to upgrade it; there are churches who have all kinds of camps and programs in the summer; there are work opportunities where teens can volunteer; there are community gardens where they can come and help till the soil and take home some of the produce; there are projects at the Fort; truly there is so much for our youth but if we don't know how to connect with it, if we don't know where it's happening or what time; especially I think of the new group that is the grandparents who are parenting for a second time; that is really tough; how do you get the information about what's going on; with the programs the schools are offering; the different classes out at EGCC; kids can come to for a week; there are so many opportunities but it is very difficult to get the information out there. Everybody isn't in to sports; everybody doesn't want to swim so what about them and my hope is that the website is going to become one of those tools where we can all tune in; maybe you're just looking for an activity for visiting grandchildren but maybe you're looking for things for our own kids to do and yes if there are ways that we can build up our whole community; that's our desire; they are the future of Steubenville and we want to do that. If there is anyone else wishing to speak to City Council on City business please come forward and state your name and address."

Mr. Villamagna – "You can't point the finger at the City all the time; me and him grew up together downtown and our mothers and fathers raised us; we played at the Catholic Community Center and there were things for us to do. The loss of family is the biggest problem; not what this Council is doing; the loss of mom and dad; that's where the problem really lies. We can sit here and citizens can point fingers at us and we can point fingers at them; but this Council hasn't done that; the City Manager hasn't done that; none of the administration has done that. We went from close to 40,000 people in this city down to 17,000 and maybe less than that; the young people are leaving; just look at this audience here, who's sitting right here; our kids are gone. I'm fortunate, my son has a real good job; well, he works out of Pittsburgh but he stays here; the youth are gone; the younger people are gone so you have pensioners; a couple guys still working here; pride is gone from this city; the pride is gone. We went up to the pool; the paper towel racks are torn off the wall; go up to Belleview Park and volunteered to clean out those bathrooms; the next day paper was strewn all over the place; people urinating on the doors; I don't want to think it's adults doing it because we have a tendency to blame kids. But this Council is devoted to try to make it a better place for all of us to live. Nobody is here for money, that's a guarantee right there; the highest paid is \$5200 and I'm still making \$3900 if I get elected again I get my big raise. But the negativity here; everybody is blaming everybody else; everybody should just do what they're supposed to do; follow through; keep an eye on all the parks yourselves; when you see people that are not supposed to be in there you call the Police Department and send them up there; if you don't think that's the correct thing to do then you call down to the City Manager the next day and you can tell him what you observed and what you think happened or what you think didn't happen. The pool; we haven't determined if we're closing the pool or keeping it open. The reason why we're thinking about closing the pool for one summer is the disrepair that it is in; to try to make it a premier place instead of putting a band aid on it; the slide has to go; it's unsafe and dangerous and we don't need it; there are sidewalk issues; there is a lot of issues up there; we still haven't made that decision on whether to do it or not; that's what we're doing in here; we're trying to keep it open but it takes money and it takes time and it takes city, community together. The City can't do this by themselves; but there has been no determination and a lot of people have already stepped forward and called and said I'll give this for you; I'll do this for free; I'll take the slide down for free; I've had concrete donated; people are willing to help it's just a matter of the right time. The City; we're

not in dire straits here but we're losing people right now still; the population is going down. Until we get jobs here; until we get something here that will bring someone here or keep someone here; it's going to be a hard fix. This Council, this administration, these guys behind me; are all dedicated to try to make it work. It isn't going to happen tomorrow; it's not going to happen this year but I think if we can get it started and I think we did get it started; it's going to be finished after we leave here; we're not going to be able to finish it; but we're devoted to it and that's all I had to say. I know it's easy to criticize us and it's easy for us to point the finger at the citizens." Regina Blanchard – "Can I ask him a question? I did talk about vision and I mean that; that we need people with vision. Young people are the ones that have actually the vision; is there a way that this town could initiate some of our students from different schools here and use what we have; because everything we need in this town we have it; even what you just said about people calling and wanting to do things; the ones that have the heart to do it, let them do it. If you cut out some of that background that has been in that pool it could be so beautiful because a lot of the young people they're actually going to Toronto; they get a ride and do what they have to do and they go to Toronto because Toronto's pool is gorgeous. But what I'm saying to you is there a way that; you spoke about looking at the people that are here; well I'm young; these two young people are the youngest people here next to me; but what I'm saying to you is we need young minds and not just for them to come from; and I'm not trying to be smart; but not for them just to come from Franciscan or the other college; we have grade school kids up on that bulletin board that you go down Fourth Street you see some smart little kids. 12 year olds have the minds of 20 year olds now a days; but I'm saying; is there a possible way where we can get a board together to get young people's input?"

Mr. Villamagna – "We've got young kids here; you mentioned two right there. He just brought up a resolution to honor an eagle scout."

Regina Blanchard – "That's not what I'm talking about."

Mr. Villamagna – "There was another young kids from Labelle who on his own did the weed whacking; we honored him last year; he said I went in to my community to help the community. I can't make anybody; somebody in here might have the greatest idea in the world; I can't, I wish I had the talent to bring it out of them. I agree with you; our time is done, we're trying to make this work for the young people but they've got to come forward on their own and they have to have this vision on their own and they have to say we want to do it; I can't make them do it. We can put all the boards together that you want."

Regina Blanchard – "I understand where you're coming from but I'm not talking about making anyone do anything; I'm talking about putting where you can get some from this school and that school and put their ideas and maybe have them have a meeting and then discuss it with you guys; I'm talking about putting another group of young people together and then you guys together, whoever; some representatives from the City and sit down and have a night like you have Tuesday nights for City Council; do you understand where I'm coming from?"

Mr. Villamagna – "Yes, I know what you mean."

Regina Blanchard – "Maybe sit down together and listen to one another and see what you can come up with; I'm just making a suggestion."

Mr. Villamagna – "Anything can work."

Mrs. Hahn – "I think it would be fun to do a town hall at Big Red and a town hall at Catholic Central and see what happens."

Asantewa Anyabwile – "If you close the pool for a year we know that pool was grandfathered in with the safety features that it has; if you close the pool you will have to bring it up to the standards that are now regulated; we know that is going to cost thousands and thousands of dollars; so closing the pool is not going to help. I have a question for you; I look around and see Weirton prospering; I even see Mingo trying to open up their mill; I look at Steubenville; one of the reasons you have young people leaving is because there is no income; there is nothing to attract people to want to stay. When businesses come here we hear about even the oil and gas; I'm not for fracking because I'm more into nature; but when the fracking industry came it came all around Steubenville; it came here for a second and poof it was gone. Then I hear about other industries and other chances for people to get employed but in Steubenville poof it disappears. Steubenville was the premier of this whole area; it's still the largest area and it still can be able for some reason it can attract businesses but for some reason it stops. If you want young people to stay you're going to have to give them income and a place to live so they will stay here."

Mr. Villamagna – "Nobody understands that more than me; if you give me the solution to that one; I can't start a factory."

Asantewa Anyabwile – "I understand that but if you don't have recreation, companies aren't going to come; if you don't have decent places for them to live, companies aren't going to come; if you aren't welcoming them, I don't know what is going on because I'm not on City Council although if somebody retires I'll be there for you; they're going to come. We don't know what is going on but we need to attract people here."

Mr. Villamagna – "I agree with you; the solution is how do we get them here; what can we do. Gas and oil, there is a long story behind the gas and oil which I'm not going to go into; we have two gas wells being built now within the City limits; there is different kinds of oil and gas and it's going to come to Jefferson County and it's going to take time but in the meantime there are no jobs here and this Council can't bring them in and we deal with so many rumors that we don't attract anybody and nobody wants to come here; they don't want to come here; the population is dropping. I want to stay here because I was born and raised here and I have pride and I want to make it work; can I do it; time will tell. But if you're from outside this area you're not going to come here right now; there is nothing here to offer. The pool; we don't want to do it haphazardly; we don't care about having to come into code with it if that's what we decide; if we decide to keep it open it's going to be open but it's just not going to look right; the pool is a mess, there is no question about it. But the answer is not with Council; we need jobs; we need families here; we need people that are going to take a chance and stay here and it's as simple

as that; and I don't know if anybody here can do that or not; we support the Port Authority; we give money to the Port Authority so they can go out and try to bring people in. We have a lot of generous people; we have a lot of people who donated a lot of time and a lot of money to try to make this work. But until there are jobs here it's not going to work."

Mrs. Hahn – "Well, things that help bring people who want to form companies and all is a city that looks clean; a city that has a crime rate going down; a city that has beautiful parks and a city that has good schools. We have the schools; we have the ability to make the parks good and we can all pitch in by helping to report crime and supporting our officers; and we can all work on our own individual properties and encourage our neighbors and help those who physically aren't able to do something about their homes to paint their porches or trim their bushes and we're going to need to pitch in and help one another. I can think of a lot of reasons to stay and for our children to return to Steubenville and one of my hopes is by the time I'm done here I'll have a notebook of returning children and grandchildren who have chosen to come back; but they do have to be able to support themselves and their families so we can do things; we're a wonderful community; we're a caring community; we're a generous community; we're a faith filled community. We have many positives; we have the Ohio River; we have the Fort; there is so much here and I hope that we can refocus; not on the mall closing or whatever else seems to be the current negative thing; we have many positives and we need to do what we can and hope that people with entrepreneurial spirit see the great values here and decide I'm going to invest in Steubenville. If there is anyone else wishing to speak to City Council on City business please come forward and state your name and address."

Mark Nelson – "I live at 272 CR 26. I just read a book and I gave it to some folks here in town regarding development in cities; I think it's called Saving America's Cities; the four points they bring up that they encourage all councils always to follow is retaining of jobs, retaining of people, attraction of jobs and attraction of people. All decisions from leaders and visionaries of the community; all of us deal in only those four points; how does every situation you deal with deal with that. I think one of the things we're dealing with in the cities is we are actually land short for creating jobs. Many of the talks we've had through SRG and who we've brought in; they speak of the downtown areas attracting business and getting the most by actually going up; most bang for their buck essentially by the acreage and one of the talks they gave was out of Asheville, North Carolina; and the amount of jobs they had in their concentrated downtown and the dollars through taxes that they brought in; wage taxes as well as residential type taxes on property and local sales tax was compared to the amount of acreage that the Walmart took up; Walmart is big and beautiful and has a beautiful parking lot and easy to access and necessary; but the same amount of acreage that took place at Walmart, you put that in the downtown and it was like 10-15 times as much that needs to be developed. So I don't think that the jobs that we were used to having; many of those jobs were concentrated in the downtown are five floors up in a factory building; you don't see five floor factory buildings getting built anywhere in America today; they're all long, low, flat, steel buildings and there is not that much land actually left in the City of Steubenville in which to develop. We just saw this cleaning company on the West End of Steubenville just moved to the County; they took 115-130 jobs to the County because of the land issue here in Steubenville. So I think we have to realize that; we're limited to 100 acre parcel called the old steel mill; outside of that it's little pieces broken up; we're using an old school building to have 35 employees in; there is not a two story building we could've moved into that looks like a typical factory so we converted one. I think the important thing to look at is I don't think we necessarily have to have the jobs in Steubenville; we need to retain the people that we have and attract the people that we have. My family was attracted to Franciscan; my kids in the back are the third generation kids here now because of Franciscan; my parents immigrated here because of that reason; my son just bought a house; he's chosen to stay here in Steubenville; he's lucky enough to have a job locally but he could also have a job like your son in Pittsburgh and still make this home. We don't have to live right where our jobs are anymore; we used to before cars; but how can we make this the best place to live; work wherever you have to work but live in Steubenville and we'll see the taxes; thank you."

Mrs. Hahn – "If there is anyone else wishing to speak to City Council on City business please come forward and state your name and address."

Chambers were cleared for executive session.

Chambers were reopened for adjournment.

Mr. Paul moved to adjourn. Second by Mr. Villamagna. Roll call. All ayes. So moved; meeting adjourned declared Mrs. Hahn.

Mary F. Anderson  
Clerk of Council

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

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