

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
May 30, 2017

The Regular Meeting of City Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. with Mayor Mucci presiding. The meeting was opened with a silent prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present were Councilmen Paul, Timmons, Villamagna, DiLoreto, Dressel, Hahn, and Johnson.

Also present; City Manager James Mavromatis, Acting Law Director Costa Mastros, Nursing Supervisor Nicole Runco, Sanitation Director Bob Baird, Dave Gossett from the Herald Star and WTOV9.

APPROVAL/CORRECTION OF MINUTES

Minutes were approved by Mrs. Hahn for May 23, 2017. Second by Mr. Paul. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved minutes accepted declared Mayor Mucci.

PETITIONS/COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Mucci – “Madame Clerk is there any petitions in communications?”

Mrs. Haley – “Yes I have one; I have a Notice to Legislative Authority from Ohio Division of Liquor Control. It’s the transfer of license from the Pleasant Food Mart on 550 Maxwell Ave. to Citrus Mart on 550 Maxwell Ave. It says to please complete and return this form to the division of Liquor Control whether or not there is a request for a hearing. Refer to this number in all inquiries BTRFO 1514096. Please sign below and mark the appropriate box indicating your title.”

Mr. DiLoreto – “Yes I would like to make a motion that the communication be filed and reported; refer to myself, the law director, city manager for further review.” Seconded by Mr. Johnson.

Mayor Mucci – “It’s been regularly moved and seconded that the communication received be filed, made part of the minutes, refer to the city manager, law director, police chief, and of course councilmen.” Roll Call. All ayes. So moved communications accepted declared Mayor Mucci.

Mayor Mucci – “Any other petitions in communications Madame Clerk?”

Mrs. Haley – “I have nothing else your Honor.”

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

NO. 2017-41 – BY THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE – 3rd reading

Messrs. DiLoreto, Dressel, Hahn

ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE CONVEYANCE OF A NEW 12-INCH WATERLINE AND DEDICATION OF A WATERLINE EASEMENT BETWEEN GOOD VENTURES PROPERTIES, LLC AND THE CITY OF STEUBENVILLE.

Mayor Mucci – “You have heard the third and final reading of Ordinance No. 2017-41. Is there is anyone wishing to speak on Ordinance No. 2017-41 please come forward and state your name and address.”

Mr. Paul – “Question”

Roll call. All ayes. Ordinance No. 2017-41 duly adopted declared Mayor Mucci. The effective date of the ordinance will be June 30th.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Mr. Paul – “Yes your Honor I have three (3) items; first I would like to adopt an ordinance through Finance; ordinance determining to proceed with the submission of the question of renewing an existing tax levy in excess of the ten-mill limitation for the purpose of current expenses of the city; to the electors of the city of Steubenville’ pursuant to section 5705.19 of the revised code; and declaring an emergency. That is the renewal levy that we asked about a couple weeks ago; that was a resolution; this is the ordinance. Secondly I would like to make a motion to entering executive session for personnel and the appending lawsuit for the healthcare lawsuit.” Seconded by Mr. Johnson. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved motion declared Mayor Mucci.

Mr. Paul – “Thank you your Honor; and third I would like to call for a recreation committee meeting for next week; next Tuesday June 6th; I’d like to ask that our Parks Director Lorri would be here and it will be at 6:30 p.m.”

Mayor Mucci – “The clerk will facilitate the proper notices for a committee meeting; parks and recreation June 6th at 6:30 p.m. here at Council Chambers.”

Mr. Timmons – “Yes I would just like to wish Steubenville High School Baseball team good luck in the state tournament this Thursday and hopefully Saturday; so represent the city well and I’m sure they will in Columbus and I also wanted to ask Jim about that alley between Kendall and Woodlawn; where the branch had fallen down; I went back there today and there is still a bunch of debris and I don’t think it has been checked yet. There’s also some cars there; one of them you can see the whole motor and everything; they are parked in the backyard; there are three (3) of them so if you could have somebody check on that. Thank you”

Mr. Mavromatis – “On the branch that has been brought up already; we still have a lot of issues around the city from that microburst that came in; but it is on the list to go back there.”

Mr. Timmons – “Okay thank you.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “We have just found another one today and I’m not sure if you have noticed it at North End Park? There’s a tree down so we got to get that up.”

Mr. Timmons – “I appreciate that; it’s just some of the garages back there I’m afraid some of those cars can’t get through; there’s some branches, leaves, and everything; maybe a little bit of cleaning up there but I appreciate it thank you.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Okay you’re welcome.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Just one thing Mayor; I would like the City Manager and the Council to know that I had the occasion to attend a class taught by Captain Lemal and Officer Sowers today; they did an excellent job; they presented themselves well; they represented the City of Steubenville Police Department very well in this class. There was probably twenty (20) guys in the class; everybody made a comment about it; I just wanted to let the City Manager and Council know that.”

Mr. DiLoreto – No report

Mr. Dressel – No report

Mrs. Hahn – “Yes we have had a couple of good times; good days working out at the pool and I’ve got two (2) more volunteer days for you; so in case you didn’t get to join us yet; you haven’t missed out; if you have already been there and one of our season people we really need you too. We need everybody including young children; everybody can work. So Friday from 3-7p.m; I’ll be at the pool; so if you have to work until five (5) you can do a quick workout at the pool before you go home for dinner or you can have dinner and then come and join us. Willie came this week; it was really great to work together; we got a lot done; we have one whole section ready for spreading the grass seed and the straw; we have another section that we need to do for deep raking and mixing in lime and then we’ll do the grass seed and straw. We’ve got some more weeding; a third of the garden area; we’ve already completed more than two (2). Friday from 3-7 I’ll be there and Saturday morning from 9 to noon; we really would very much appreciate any help that you want to give us. If we are able to get the baby pool drained we also be able to begin scrubbing that down; we need a spreader; I don’t know if any of you have one that if you are able to come on Friday and you’ve got that piece of equipment and would be able to bring it that would be great. It’s better to bring water with you and gloves and then we also still have more work to do by the beautiful stone sign but we’ll do that if we finish that. Lorri is painting the bathrooms’ she told me today and tomorrow; we do need to power wash the pool before we can begin to (inaudible); so hopefully we’ll figure out what tools we are using. Bob I don’t know if you have the heavy duty commercial power washer; she said what she had available to her was more like a home owner power washer and she didn’t think it would be able to do the pool well. Do you have any kind of that equipment or do we need to rent that?”

Bob Baird – “Our equipment would need to be built on to the (inaudible); it’s powered by 220 volt electricity; which we would have to have on site or provide a water source; to find a way to make that happen at the pool. There are companies that have mobile (inaudible), propane that might be ready to go; ours would take a little work; we don’t have the necessary power there to run it; so we would have to come up with a solution for that to make it work at the pool.”

Mrs. Hahn – “Okay should I talk to Jim about that then we’ll just decide if we’re renting or what we are going to do with that. We’ll have to start filling that pool and getting that ready.”

Mayor Mucci – “Yes Mrs. Hahn all of this should be coordinated through the City Manager; he’s ultimately responsible for the day to day operation.”

Mrs. Hahn – “Okay one thing that we did find out is that SVRTA has made a commitment if a child has a regular pool pass for the summer; they can have a bus ride for free to and from the pool. If you go to SVRTA.com; all the schedules are there and we’ll have to figure out the age your allowed to ride the bus or if you have to be accompanied by an adult. There is a great possibility that some children don’t have a way to get there that they can use SVRTA.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Kimberly it’s for adults too.”

Mrs. Hahn – “Oh it’s for adults too! Okay so whoever has a pool pass they’ll take them right there by that Biggio sign. We seem to have plenty of people who took the class for lifeguarding; they just have one more class to take one June 3rd; there will still be some procedures before they can be hired by the city but we’re moving ahead and Lorri said she’s really hopeful that we’ll be able to open a week from Saturday. We’ll see how much we can get done.”

Mr. Johnson – “Yes your Honor I have several ordinances to sunshine; the first is out of planning; the proposal remits to appeal existing Chapter 1305 and enacting a new Chapter 1305 of the building code. Out of planning I propose an ordinance amending section 1323.18 and section 1327.05 and enacting a new section 1327.06 of the building code. An ordinance amending section 106.3 of property maintenance code out of planning and I believe this next one is out of safety; an ordinance enacting a new section 303.12 to establish an administrative charge of \$25.00 for vehicle impoundment. That’s all I have.”

Mayor Mucci – “Before we move into administrative officers I would just like to remind everyone that summer is here; grass is growing; potholes are showing; we got a lot of things going on. However the fun time in our community kicking off in June we will have the Ohio Valley Frontier Days this coming Saturday and Sunday; the times are Saturday 11-6 and Sunday will be 12-6. We want to encourage our citizens to come downtown; visit the fort where history is alive.”

REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Mr. Mavromatis – “Thank you Mayor. On the pool; I talked with Wendy Tucker who is the Lifeguard (inaudible) at Steubenville Big Red pool. They had to move their last training day to June 3rd so we’ll have a (inaudible) of lifeguards there; somewhere between six (6) and eight (8) if they pass the final stage and we have somewhere between four (4) and six (6) that already applied; that are already certified. So based on everything that we have and talking with Lorri we should have enough lifeguards. We still have some safety issues that have to be done and I already talked to Mr. Saltsman; he’s going to finish up some of the concrete work there; to fill in the holes where the slide was at; we also have some metal that needs to be removed from there. We’ll probably have to block off an area where the wall is; Anthony Bodo went up there last week and looked at it and it will probably get by this year but that is going to have to be rebuilt. Clearly the kids can’t be on the railings or standing on the wall; that may cause it to go over. The apartment is finished and Lorri will move in this coming weekend so we’re happy to get her there. There’s a couple minor things but that can be fixed while she’s in there; I will have photographs taken of this apartment prior to her move in and we also have pictures before-hand; so I have all this as a permanent record for that. But this is an (inaudible) that the city needs to keep up; it’s a good piece of property; it’s a great apartment; we had a new stove put in there; it’s been checked out on the heating and the air conditioning which is fine; we had some dry rot on the roof; there were two (2) leaks that were found so we were able to get the fixed in time before it just collapsed. There’s a lot of interior work interior work that need to be done but again it’s where it needs to be and this is how it will be maintained.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Jim we got to note that policy up there.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “That is correct Mr. Villamagna; that’s the only way we can keep this like it should be. So we’ll have a clear record of what’s been done there; everything that has been done there and again I thank Mr. Baird and his staff; he’s kept the dumpsters up there; as we needed it to keep that filled up and we’ll continue to keep that until we get the rest of the grounds done. That’s all I have at this point.”

Mr. Mastro – No report

Mayor Mucci – “That will conclude administrative officer reports; thank you department heads for attending the council meeting.”

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS

Mr. Johnson – “I continue to get reports from my citizens in my ward of drug activity occurring not only in the Veterans Park area; in the alley between Lawson and Maxwell; cars park on Lawson; they walk down the alley; there’s all kinds of activity going on. In the park we got individuals drinking out of paper bags; summer is just now starting but my latest call was on Murphy’s Field; apparently on Sunday night around 7 to 8 o’clock there was a large gathering of individuals dealing drugs; citizens in that area called the police; now the police were seen on Union which is about a block away from Murphy’s but they weren’t seen going down to Murphy’s to investigate. I guess you could smell marijuana being used; drugs being dealt in the open; people urinating on the shelter house; the bathrooms are opened 24/7; activity occurring in there prostitution; sex; we need to lock those bathrooms; we should lock them at dusk; that park should be closed at dusk; we need to patrol it and if our police officers see people there we need to tell them to get moving and hopefully maybe we can have the police with keys to lock that bathroom at night; then in the morning open it up. I would also like to see the drug dog; which I personally believe is underutilized; maybe do some foot patrol in those two (2) areas. We have to come up with a plan to help my citizens in those areas. Most of the citizens living in that area are great citizens however they are under attack and it’s just the first start of summer; the unofficial start of summer; if this is what it’s going to be like then it’s going to be miserable over there for everybody. Jim if you could look into the thing on Murphy’s field about the police coming up; I also encourage that if we get a call for something like that if the police could actually stop and see the resident that made the call; I know when I call the police they always take my name; it will go and help build some relationship in community; to have the interaction; more than just a car driving by. But we have to do something on Pleasant Heights and other places in town but the recent calls I’ve gotten are Veteran’s Park, the alley between Maxwell and Lawson, and Murphy’s field. We have to close Murphy’s field; well not close it but at night when it closes at dusk; all individuals have to be out. We just put a whole lot of money into new playground equipment there and we got people urinating on it; that has to stop and if we’re just going to drive by and look the other way; that’s not the way to run a community. So if you could look into that Jim; maybe I can meet with you and we can brainstorm on maybe what we can do to disrupt what is going on up there I would really appreciate it.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Some of my stuff was answered; the pool update from Mr. Mavromatis and Kimberly; the citizens just so they’re aware that it wasn’t our fault that the pool isn’t open; it was circumstances beyond our control; weather was part of it and we just couldn’t get somethings done that have to be done; also the lifeguards. The other thing was Kingston and Rosslyn Blvd.; coming up on GPS; John Scott bypass there’s a sign at the top that says turn right for 43; well it’s before Kingston; so these truck drivers are turning down Kingston. Now when they make that turn onto Kingston there’s a sign about 30 yards off of 43; where it says this is not a GPS route; this is not a GPS truck route and it’s too late if you’re driving a tractor trailer. He went down Kingston; tried to make that turn to Rosslyn Blvd and he tore out a fire plug; ripped out all the landscaping in one of the neighbors houses; actually he couldn’t even get the truck out of there; he had to wait until cars were moved to get the truck out of there. We need to see if we can relocate that sign coming up the connector; where maybe the turn on 43 is passed Kingston; I can’t picture a professional truck driver turning down Kingston but it’s happened a week or two (2) ago; it happened last year; a couple times I was down there because they try to make that turn off Kingston and it ain’t happening. Maybe if we could move that sign passed Kingston; where it says 43 turn; that might work;

maybe you can get Dolak to look at it. The other thing was that Murphy's field grant; Nature Works Grant; I looked up the specifications on it; the remainder of that money is not specified that it has to be used toward the fence; it has to be used for park improvements. I would like to see if we can get that money towards the improvement of the field. The fence is bad; but it's more for appearance but the field needs to be played on. That's all I have."

Bob Baird – "Yes your Honor; Mr. Villamagna I actually had a conversation today with the city engineer regarding that very issue; the way that road is laid out; you can't see where you're supposed to turn; you only see the turn there at Kingston. We are going out tomorrow to see what is necessary; the request from the city engineer was that we eliminate the arrow on that sign so that they are not getting that indicator; they are not being indicated to make that right hand turn; the sign essentially be communicating that State Route 43 is ahead. I just wanted to mention since you brought that subject up that we are going out tomorrow to see what steps are necessary to eliminate that right."

Mr. Villamagna – "You saw that damage down there?"

Bob Baird – "Yes. To eliminate the right arrow from that particular sign to see if that helps alleviate that issue."

PUBLIC FORUM

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

Ed Forrick – "434 Scenic Drive in the west end. Two (inaudible); as a follow to the article that appeared in the Letters to the Editor on Sunday; my neighbor Michelle Tedro acknowledge the work of our fire department; I happened to be there on the scene; when that fire on good Friday and I want to tell you that Chief Carlo Capaldi and Asst. Chief Frank DiLonardis and the other firemen that were there did an outstanding job; fortunately they were able to save some of the property from extensive damage. I just can't tell you; or have the words to express how much aberration I had for the work that the fire department did and I certainly don't envy the issue that you face trying to balance efficiency of two (2) fire stations against the effectiveness of three (3); I wish you well in those deliberations. The second thing has to do with my trip to Pittsburgh on Sunday morning to attend the baptism of my great niece; I rounded the bend to head into the bridge over the river and I encountered a 18 wheeler turned over on its side; by the time I got there; there was a high lift trying to scrape up some of the stuff that had fallen out of the truck. I thought about this more today as I drove over here to the meeting; we need to find a way whether if it's through the feds; if they are in charge of the highway or the state if it's their jurisdiction; about putting up more of a warning sign on each side of the river; that those trucks have really got to slow down and I think Bob you've addressed it well today. We have a lot of people out on the highway today; they have their CDL but I would not call them professional drivers; my personal experience having driven back from Georgia three (3) winters ago and on the highway between Kentucky and Tennessee; trying to maintain a safe 40-45 mph speed and distance so I could control my vehicle if I had to stop; I'm getting blown off the road by these 18 wheelers; that just have all the confidence in the world that they have those 18 wheels underneath and behind them that that weight is not going to create a problem and we've had two (2) accidents down here on that bend in the last couple of weeks; one actually put a hole in the floor of the bridge. I think whether it's the federal government or the state or if the city could get involved; we need to do something to create a more signage and more identification of these turns that are coming up. I'm reminded of a trip that I was making several years ago; where 79 intersected with 70 and that was completely a 180 degree turn onto that highway; they had a lot of flashing lights and they still had damage against the concrete and barriers. We need to do something because fortunately we have not lost a life there and the sad thing; I don't have as much concern for the drivers of these rigs if they are not keeping their vehicles under control; but I am thinking about the citizens that might be traveling that road and might be involved in an accident. I'm offering to identify the problem to the city and at the same time at least offering a suggestion; those signs are probably not going to eliminate all the problems but if could draw attention to some of the people that are driving these 18 wheelers maybe we can eliminate some of the accidents; prevent any fatalities. Thank you."

Dr. Pat Macedonia – "I'm not here as a citizen; I'm here representing the Board of Health. My role here as present (inaudible); actually I didn't think I was going to be back here. Wednesday May the 24th there was an article in the Herald Star regarding a comment made by Mr. Villamagna; regarding the article that we placed in the Herald Star regarding the exit plan we have for the Board of Health and there's also a comment here that this is an insult to me, the city, and our citizens. Again this isn't about me this is about representing the Board of Health; first of all the Board of Health is a separate entity; we are not govern by city council, we don't (inaudible); the city charter identifies us. The only thing we depend on the city council for is for funding. So what we do at the Board of Health is completely independent; so it's not like we have to ask council or the mayor what we can do and what we can't do; I'll get back to that in a minute. In the funds that we have; there's a fund in there called the SDP account; that fund is money that we've raised with the Health Department; for services to help the department provide immunization and on down the line. So right, it is in the general fund but it's earmarked for the health; so in reality that is not your money; you're going to end up with it but how we spend it is well defined; we can spend it as we see fit; based on a very descriptive allowance of how that money is spent. So the question is where did this money come from for this article? It came from the SDP account why? One of the reasons for that account is for public education; so if you don't consider this as public education; I really don't know what you consider this; as far as an insult I really don't know why this would be insulting to anybody. We defined; we put on our closings; you've all seen the article so I don't need to go through it again. Again I'm not sure why that came out."

The purpose of the article was for education; paid for by the Board of Health; with their own funds as described. Usually legal counsel as well as the Finance Director reviewed that (inaudible) as very appropriate for how we spent it. So again this is right for the public to understand; if you all don't understand it then that's fine; but the public's information this is for and how the money came from. There's another comment made about the county health department and how they haven't heard from us regarding the contract; that's somewhat accurate but I will tell you that Mr. Mavromatis has been in communication with the county health commissioner; in fact myself, Mr. Mavromatis, Ms. Nicole Runco, the health commissioner as well as the (inaudible) who is the county health commissioner; we did meet and we've talked about this; somewhat informal but there was communication; and by the way I paid for that dinner myself; it came out of no funds. I'm here to really explain what's going on; I really don't want to keep coming back but when you read articles about this; you get criticized about the things we do; I think the time has come to leave this thing to rest; leave it be; it's in contracting; we are negotiating; Mr. Mastros we met the last Board of Health the third Thursday of last month; there is a rough draft of the contract; there's information we need to put back into the contract. I want to remind the council about one more thing; the contract between two (2) boards of health; as you instructed many months ago you wanted Mr. Mavromatis to be involved; he's been involved; this contract is between the two (2) boards of health. As long as we understand it that's where it is going to stay. So if you still have questions are next board meeting is June the 15th; 7:30 Thursday morning; I invite any of you that have questions about what this is all about; please come; again I am not going to answer any of your questions tonight. Thank you Mayor."

Mr. Villamagna – "The reason why I brought this up; this is a full page ad; paid for with \$4,327.00 for four (4) ads. He said it was an exit strategy; there is not one word in this ad; anywhere; that says these services will be taken over by the Jefferson County Health Department; in no way shape or form. It has everybody's name at the top here Nicole Runco, Domenick Mucci, John Figel and all the board members; then at the bottom it says the same thing; you could've condensed this ad to a half page, quarter page ad; now the \$4,327.00 now that came out of the fund for the vaccinations; which I think is earmarked from the general fund or am I right or wrong? So that is general fund money; if we have excess money in that account; it could've been sent back to the general fund. The other issue I have a problem with is do Ohio sunshine laws apply to every board, as well as councils, and everybody else? I sent an e-mail requesting the minutes from the Health board meeting that took place where this was discussed and I got an answer back from Jim that says here's the PO you requested; which I got \$4,327.00; this decision on this was made in executive session according to Nicole's records of the meeting with the members of the Health Board. Are you allowed to vote on whether you want to do this in executive session?"

Mr. Mastros – "You are not allowed to take any actions in executive session; but I believe it was discussed but then came out and a vote occurred out of executive session."

Mr. Villamagna – "My next question would be why that isn't in the minutes?"

Mr. Mastros – "I can't answer that."

Nicole Runco – "It's listed under the Board made a motion to accept the exit strategy; if you look at the exit strategy; I'm not sure but I know I gave it to Mr. Mavromatis and I'm sure he forwarded it to you. It was listed to accept that clinic; how I worded it in the minutes that the Board made a motion to accept the exit strategy and there's a full page of the exit strategy step by step. It's listed in that."

Mr. Villamagna – "According to the note that I got it just states the..."

Mr. Mavromatis – "If I remember wasn't that the last thing listed in that exit letter?"

Nicole Runco – "No it was on the top portion; there were several steps; it was the last thing listed in the top portion; then there were other things listed below it."

Mr. Villamagna – "I made that statement based on the information that I had."

Mr. Mavromatis – "Right"

Nicole Runco – "It is included with the minutes."

Mr. Villamagna – "I didn't think then and I don't think now that \$4,327.00 should be expended and is still being expended; there was an ad in there yesterday and it's my belief that there will be another one on top of this; without one word; effective April the 30th immunizations, TB testing, and all clinical (inaudible) services will end. They are not going to end; they are going to go to the county board of health. Effective May 1st the Steubenville Health Department will be operating on a part-time basis; the office will be open on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Effective May 30, 2017 all vital stats operations will cease; again that is not true; they will be picked up at the county. You addressed at the meeting that some of the people that are funeral directors were upset and had some (inaudible) they were having to go through. That's my beef; that's my complaint and that's why I took it as an insult. Not one (1) word was put in here about going to the County Health Board; not one (1) and we spend \$4,327.00 of tax payer money on four (4) full page ads; we didn't even do that for the levies."

Dr. Macedonia – "This is information to the citizens; not to this council; not to Mr. Villamagna; so I hope this ends up in the newspaper; after they identify what I am trying to say here. That money; Mr. Mastros is the Board of Health's money; it's in the general fund; but it's a segregated amount of money. When it is all said and done; you're going to get it; but it's not the general funds money; we spend it according to the SPD's requirements; it's the Board of Health's money, number one (1). Number two (2) Mr. Villamagna if you would read down at the last paragraph of the article because it says; our expectations are the (inaudible) health department in the future will be provided by the Jefferson County General Health District. What are you missing there? What didn't we inform the public where to go next?"

Mr. Villamagna – "That's your expectations; that's not your expectations; that's what's going to happen Pat."

Dr. Macedonia – "Listen if you want to argue this discussion please come to our meeting."

Mr. Villamagna – “No I am not going to come to your meeting; this is the public; this is the place. You’ve spent \$4,327.00 of tax payer’s money.”

Dr. Macedonia – “No that’s the Board of Health’s money.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Where did it come from?”

Dr. Macedonia – “Services that we provided to the public.”

Mr. Villamagna – “You just said it was the general fund.”

Dr. Macedonia – “Yea we don’t have our own checking account; we don’t have our own savings account; you wouldn’t remember this but many years ago there was a separate account. I forget who the finance director was at the time; Mr. Mayor you probably know who it was”

Mayor Mucci – “Mr. Marshall”

Dr. Macedonia – “Mr. Marshall said they went to the state and realized this probably wasn’t appropriate; so they transferred those CDs into the general fund; but if you would understand how it was segregated; that money is in the SDP account money for the Health Department; to spend accords with the regulations with that account; that’s a state account.

Mr. Villamagna - “Well let me ask you a questions; if this money was not spent where would this money go on June the 30th?”

Dr. Macedonia – “We have yet to figure that out; to be honest with you; Mr. Mastros is well aware of that money that is available that’s no secret; every month that comes up in our financial report.”

Mr. Villamagna – “But if you don’t spend it; I don’t mean that that it will end up missing; I mean when the Health Department closes that money would come back to the city is that correct?”

Mayor Mucci – “I don’t believe so; I believe it will go to the county; but I am not an attorney.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Okay well for the sake of the argument if it goes back to the county it’s still going back to the people. When I say city I’m not saying Bob Villamagna is the city; I’m saying the city; everybody; not Bob Villamagna not just us.”

Mayor Mucci – “Just so you understand that money was not generated by the general fund; that money in that particular funding is for buying our users fees; of people that are using the fees.”

Mr. Villamagna – “I understand that; if they would put an ad in here that says we encourage everybody from the City of Steubenville to use the county Health Department; I’ve got no problem with this ad; but I got a problem with this ad when you take \$4,000 and you put everybody’s name on the top; which takes up that much space and then you put it again on the bottom; which takes up that much space. Now if that was necessary; now listen; I might be wrong.”

Mayor Mucci – “That is a copy of the letter that went to the residents of our community; some residents that used the Health Department; it was just blown up for that full page ad.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Oh I’m not stupid; I know that; I mean I understand that; \$4,000 can you tell me that this is \$4,000; that we should spend four (4) grand on this? No way Dom.”

Mr. Timmons – “I have a question; you’re saying it was a letter so that was sent to all the residents?”

Mayor Mucci – “No.”

Mr. Timmons – “Okay.”

Mayor Mucci – “Users.”

Mr. Timmons – “Oh the users okay.”

Mayor Mucci – “Some users”

Mr. Timmons – “Some users okay.”

Mayor Mucci – “The Steubenville Health Board; and I don’t want to get into this conversation tonight; has served this community for a hundred and some years faithfully. We had mixed emotions on how to proceed and combining services with the County Health Department and the Steubenville Health Department. We worked on that for approximately close to maybe two (2) years in our conversations and deliberations about the process. We know it wasn’t going to be easy; the health board always had and knew the intentions of this council; I’ve had said it publicly that ultimately they would like our services to be turned over to the county and the space in the Health Department could be used for our Police Department; this was over a year ago I said this and it is becoming a reality. The Health Board has always said that maybe there are some repeated services and we will look at the efficiencies and we went through a study; by the way \$50,000 feasibility study that a grant paid for and didn’t cause our tax payers money; but it was a state grant. When we went through this process we knew that this was not going to be easy; the health board felt strongly; very strongly that our citizens; if they were a user one (1) time five (5) years ago or if they used it yesterday; needs to know about the faith of the health department because month after month after month indications are unknown for the health department; our employees were upset; some of them wanted to retire; some of them wanted to move on; some of them did move on but this wasn’t an easy process. The Board of Health felt strongly that our citizens should know; the ad that appeared was approved at a public forum at a health board meeting; discussed in executive session but approved in a regular session on the expenditures. So we could play with words also; reality is that ultimately the health department will be closing at the end of June and we wanted our citizens to know and that was the notification. If it appeared once or four (4) times it was a notification that went out to our residents; it’s been quite clear through all this that most hopefully all of our services will be picked up by the county. We still don’t have a contract and we still don’t know that to make that commitment tonight and we still don’t know the cost; we’re supposed to be realizing a significant cost saving; I still don’t think we’ll be receiving that but I don’t know that for a fact but we are still working things out. I would ask everybody the health board, members of council, let Mr. Mavromatis, the health board, and the county continue to negotiate and see where this ends. Notification had to go out to our citizens for them that may come down on July 1st to use our services and the Health Department is closed.

Mr. Johnson – “Quick question on the process; since we are doing a complete contracting now; the way I read the revised code is that contract is going to be between the county health board and city council; is that right Costa?”

Mr. Mastros – “We are still trying to determine that because the contract is actually between the two (2) boards of health but when you pass the legislation; there still could be legislation that has to be passed that authorizes the whole contract; I’m still trying to figure that out to be honest with you.”

Mr. Johnson – “The one section I read the Ohio Revised Code was if you had a contracting out of services; like if we were just going to do the environmental then that the health board to health board but if you are going to do the whole thing; then I think the Ohio Revised Code is pretty clear that the Chief Executive; which is the City Manager is our case; can sign that contract with the approval of the majority of the legislative body.”

Mr. Mastros – “I’m not sure about that yet; I’m still working it out to be honest with you. I’ll get back to you on it.”

Mr. Johnson – “Okay thank you.”

Mr. Mastros – “Yes sir.”

Mr. Villamagna – “My beef has never been with the Health Department; my beef has been; well I don’t know if you can call it beef but I’m going to call it that; my beef is trying to save the City of Steubenville money so we can do other things. When people come down here and wonder why the pool ain’t open and we don’t have to go around with our hand out asking for people to volunteer; to pave things; so we don’t have to make his guys patch holes all day long and then leave something else go. The Health Department has been around for a lot of years and it’s a good Health Department; I’ll say that to anybody; like I said my argument was not with the Health Department. When I personally went up to see the county; to encourage them to bring Nicole and any employee from here on board; that was the whole purpose of it; but when you say the Health Department and let them do this with Jim which I don’t have a problem with that; now I’m really to the point; now you’re telling me that a letter went out to everybody that used the health department; is that correct?”

Mayor Mucci – “Here’s a copy of the letter.”

Mr. Villamagna – “You said that a letter went out...”

Mayor Mucci – “To users; some users. Not to all citizens because not all citizens use our Health Department.”

Mr. Villamagna – “So this went out to all the people that don’t use the Health Department? Well we’re going to play that war of words and I’m good at it myself. If that letter went out to all the people that were users.”

Mayor Mucci – “Some”

Mr. Villamagna – “Okay some; when there is \$4,000 spent that I consider tax payers money; I’m going to stand up and say what I got to say about the money because I think that it was wrong to do it. Now you said this was discussed in executive session; can you even discuss taking an ad out in executive session?”

Mayor Mucci – “Yes sure you can.”

Mr. Villamagna – “You can discuss it in executive session?”

Mr. Mastros “Sure”

Mr. Villamagna – “Well then I learned something; but that’s wrong for this ad, it’s wrong for the tax payers and that’s it; I could debate it all night long.”

Jerry Barilla – “4353 Steuben Woods Drive; on a lighter note I would like to thank the City Manager, the Steubenville Fire Department, and the Steubenville Police Department for their cooperation in support of last evening summer funs; it was a very successful event and it’s very helpful that the city participated in the support of that. Thank you.”

Council Chambers were cleared for Executive Session.

Council Chambers were reopened for adjournment.

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

ATTEST: _____
CLERK OF COUNCIL

APPROVED: _____
MAYOR