

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
September 5, 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 Timmons, Villamagna, DiLoreto, Dressel, Hahn, Johnson, & Paul.

Also present; City Manager Jim Mavromatis, Acting Law Director Costa Mastros, Police Chief Bill McCafferty, Fire Chief Carlo Capaldi, Wastewater Director Chuck Murphy, Dave Gossett from the Herald Star, & WTOV9.

APPROVAL/CORRECTION OF MINUTES

Minutes were approved by Mrs. Hahn for August 29, 2017. Second by Mr. Johnson. 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 – “Nothing your Honor”

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

NO. 2017-67– BY THE SERVICE COMMITTEE – 1st reading

Messrs. DiLoreto, Johnson, Hahn

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS IN ACCORDANCE WITH LAW FOR THE PURCHASE OF NECESSARY SUPPLIES FOR USE IN THE SERVICE DEPARTMENT, AND TO PROVIDE FOR A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF SAID MATERIALS FOR THE YEAR 2018, AUTHORIZING THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO OF CONTRACTS AND PAYMENT THEREOF.

Mayor Mucci – “You have heard the first reading of Ordinance No. 2017-67. The second reading will be on September 12th. The third and final reading will be on September 19th. If adopted by city council it’ll be the effective date of October 20th.”

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Mr. Timmons – No Report

Mr. Villamagna – “Yes Mayor. I have two (2) things; first thing is the Economic Development Committee Meeting will be next week; next Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. and hopefully during that meeting I’ll have good news with a new business coming to town and taking up some property; it looks pretty positive; I don’t want to say anything and he doesn’t want it announced until next Tuesday but it looks very promising and that’s all I have tonight. The other thing is updates; have we gotten any quotes or anything?”

Mr. Mavromatis – “We’re waiting for bids on one from the security; I need to come to Council with a dollar amount so that furniture, security issues, it has been decided by our IT people that Captain Anderson will stay when the move happens; he’ll move into the Chief’s office because of what IT says it’s cost to us to keep him there; it’s a larger room but we still have to keep the equipment over there for keeping it cool; then we have to move what’s left in the new location; that’s a State hookup there and we’ll have to remove that and put our own hookup in. Once I get all this I’ll need to come to Council and say listen this is what it’s going to cost us; this is what’s here; make a decision if we are going forward.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Now I have a question too; we have a contract with JB Green Team is that correct?”

Mr. Mavromatis – “We do.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Do we have an idea of when that expires?”

Mr. Mavromatis – “No but I have a meeting this Thursday I can find out. I already brought this up based on some of your; about another pick up and I want to bring it to the meeting this Thursday; we would like to have another pick up.”

Mr. Villamagna – “No I’m talking about the building contract.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Oh okay. I’ll have to see about that.”

Mr. Villamagna – “I would like to get the details for that because there’s a rumor in the community that they are planning on building their own facility some place.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “I can put your rumor at ease because I go to the meetings. They’re looking and I’ve flat out asked them if they go to build or buy an existing building they will be moving out of here because I needed to know that; so that’s a fact they are looking but they haven’t signed anything yet; tomorrow is part of the meeting and that’s why it’s going to be out there off of 43 they’re looking at some other properties.”

Mr. Villamagna – “I just wanted to make sure that we don’t get into a contract; maybe by month or whatever we’ll have to do if they are going to leave. Correct me if I’m wrong; both Chiefs; that building where JB Green Team is was the Fire Department am I right or wrong?”

Chief Capaldi – “Yes.”

Mr. Villamagna – “And where you’re at was actually the Police Department is that correct?”

Chief Capaldi – “Yes.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Which would be really a lot of room; enough room for everybody involved if you could go back to that situation.”

Chief Capaldi – “Where I am now it’s the Police Chief, the secretary, and juvenile.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Right.”

Chief Capaldi – “And then JB Green Team office was the Fire Department; me, the two (2) inspectors, the mechanic and the secretary.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Okay that’s what I thought. I remember because I was on the tail end of that. Okay thank you that’s what I wanted to clear up.”

Mr. DiLoreto – No Report

Mr. Dressel – No Report

Mrs. Hahn – “I just have a few things. First of all when we had the LaBelle Neighborhood Meeting and I want to be clear about something what we are hoping to do is duplicate; we can work on these strategies; duplicate them in other neighborhoods so this is really just the beginning it’s not the (inaudible) focus. We had 80 people come and it was a very good, intense at times, good meeting and I think for people to meet more of their neighbors and begin to build relationships and talk about concerns and see how many people have concerns in common was very helpful; I really appreciated the City Manager being there and Eric and Mike who represent two (2) different parts of LaBelle. We are following up with a meeting with landlords and it will probably have to be moved because Mr. Petrossi is not available the day we thought so we’re hoping for Thursday the 28th and that will involve anybody who isn’t a landlord on LaBelle and again just wanting to really be able to hear the concerns and being able to share the City’s perspective. We had 26 at the Marina so that was really good. What the city workers were able to get done before we even got there was amazing so thank you; thank you to the Fire Department; I don’t even know all the departments that were involved; certainly Bob Baird did a lot of weed killing and we still have a lot of work to do; 26 of us worked for almost five (5) hours and I really appreciate all the effort and hopefully we’ll continue that; also the JB Green Team provide the gloves and bags and vests and that was terrific. Tomorrow if any of you are available at 11:30 a.m. over at the Visitor Center in the Fort area there’s going to be the next video on Downtown Revitalization by Roger Brooks and so some of us are going to a Heritage Ohio event in Wooster; I’ll be there but I encourage you if you’re free to come over at 11:30 a.m. it’s about an hour and a half; hour and fifteen minutes. Thank you.”

Mr. Johnson – “Yes your Honor. I’d like to make a motion that we approve the Mayor’s recommendation to reappoint Mike Barber to the Planning and Zoning Commission for the term that will expire in 2022.” Second by Mr. DiLoreto. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved motion carried declared Mayor Mucci.

Mr. Johnson – “I’d like to make another motion to approve the Mayor’s recommendation to reappoint Mattie Patterson to the Fair Housing Practices Board for the term that will expire in 2022.” Second by Mr. Villamagna. Roll call. All ayes. So moved motion carried declared Mayor Mucci.

Mr. Johnson – “And I have one more motion to approve the Mayor’s recommendation to approve the following persons to the Historic Landmark Commission Alan Hall term expiring 2020, Tony Corella term expiring 2020.” Seconded by Mr. Timmons. Roll call. All ayes. So moved motion carried declared Mayor Mucci.

Mr. Paul – “Yes your Honor I have a couple items. First of all I’d like to make a motion that we accept the Mayor’s recommendation to reappoint for the Parks and Recreation Board Mrs. Vickie Nurczyk term expiring in 2022.” Seconded by Mr. Villamagna. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved motion carried by Mayor Mucci.

Mr. Paul – “Also I would like to make a motion that we enter into Executive Session after tonight’s meeting to discuss Police Personnel.” Seconded by Mr. Johnson. Roll call. All ayes. So moved motion carried by Mayor Mucci.

Mr. Paul – “Yes and one more item. Bishop Moore came up to us and asked or he was telling us that he and Mr. Prentice had a truck from (inaudible) going down to Houston. In the mean time I ran into him at M & M Hardware the other day and I told him I was interested in giving some water to go down. He said he already had one truck filled up and maybe he can update us. I did find out what a skid of water would cost; I went to Kroger and I talked to Jimmy Wilson; good man; he’s the manager over at Kroger and I was talking with him so if someone would like to know the price I’ll tell you in public or you can pull me to the side and tell me but we can spilt one, we can get our own, I’ll let you know what the price of a skid of water; it’s 84 24 packs on a skid. I think I’m going to have Bishop Moore talk more.”

Bishop Moore – “First off thank you to everybody that has already helped out with all the water; we filled up one truck within 24-48 hours it was already overfilled but we have received so much more water and we are still receiving the water so now we might be able to fill two (2) more tractor trailers full over water. A lot of you have seen the disaster that’s getting ready to hit Florida; the hurricane is now a category 5; by the time it hits the Florida coast; Miami it will be a category 4 they are comparing it to (inaudible); it’s going to be a big problem down in Florida. If anyone could help us out with the truck or trucks that we can get the water down to Houston as well as down in Florida because it’s going to be a problem; we would really appreciate it. We have water and we’re still receiving water, we have a lot of water; the news press went out; Channel 9 News and it went all the way down to Wheeling; there’s pallets of water that’s willing to go (all inaudible) going to make some big

contributions to this but we just need trucks so if anyone of you know of a trucking company that will volunteer and assists with this let us know and we'll greatly appreciate it."

Mr. Villamagna – "Bishop you already had trucks donated by (inaudible) is that correct?"

Bishop Moore – "They did one truck. The initial conversation was about two (2) trucks; we don't know what happened with the second truck but the second truck (inaudible) but we definitely have one (1) truck. Anything that will help us get a bunch of water down to Texas and Florida (all inaudible)."

Mayor Mucci – "I would like to once again remind members of Council; I know our Law Director passed out the language that is going to appear on the November ballot for our 5 mill operating renewal levy; I am still waiting on recommendations from members of Council who I know is unanimously supporting the renewal of the levy for some names to serve on a committee. I did receive notice from the Board of Elections today about the designation of a treasurer so we need to work on this; it should be a primary and important focus until November; until the election so if the members of Council within the next week or at least next Tuesday get back to me with some recommendations of individuals from your ward that will be willing to serve on the renewal committee; then we'll have a meeting and a designated treasurer, a chairman, and the committee and (inaudible) Board of Elections. I also would like to thank the city departments basically the M & R Department, the Fire Department for the outstanding job that they did that day in preparing the Steubenville Marina for the Day of Action with the United Way; I would like to thank the volunteers through the United Way that helped out and of course Mrs. Hahn for coordinating that day of activities; job well done; it's looking great let's just hope that it can stay that way here in the future. We do have two (2) events that are being planned the Carpalotti's once again having their boat ride down there and I was talking to Rita and telling her how nice the Marina looked and one of the Carpalotti's went down to the Marina and was very impressed with the looks of the Marina so that's a great reflection on the City of Steubenville."

REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Mr. Mavromatis – No Report

Mr. Mastros – "Just briefly Mr. Mayor. Just for informational purposes I did pass out the sample ballot language for our 5 mill renewal; that is the language that we have used consistently every time that it has been renewed. I did show it to our Finance Director that that's going to be the language on the ballot and the Mayor gave his comment regarding the committee. Thank you Mayor."

Mayor Mucci – "Let me point out that if you notice by that notice that he passed out; the sample notice; its issue number 5 so what's going to be important in November for the general election is a Yes vote on Issue 5."

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS

Mr. Dressel – "Two quick things. One is to mention that the Steubenville Popcorn Company is still building and looking for an opening date soon. The other thing is if you haven't been over to the fort they have a display about the Bill of Rights this week and next and the constitution in full but especially the Bill of Rights; if you haven't read it you should; go over and take a look. Thank you."

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."

Joseph Smarrella – "112 Starkdale Road Steubenville, Oh. Couple meetings ago I spoke about landlords; I'd like to be called instead of a landlord a property owner; I think landlords are taking a bad rap in this town cause Ms. DiCarlantonio spoke about it too and I brought up an issue about something that was put in a few years back by Council about a property owner should be responsible for the use of the water that a person comes into the apartment; uses and yet they hold the property owner responsible. I don't think its right; I don't think it's got common sense; I think I was told that either; Mr. Mastros something about state thing?"

Mr. Dressel – "State of Ohio Law."

Mr. Mastros – "Yes"

Joseph Smarrella – "Can I get a copy of the statue?"

Mr. Mastros – "Sure."

Joseph Smarrella – "From the State?"

Mr. Mastros – "Sure we can get you a copy."

Joseph Smarrella – "I still don't think it's right that someone could use the water, put a deposit, use the water, and then the person that owns the property has to pay it. Most of the people I talked too don't think that's right and I've been coming here eight (8) years; I own only two (2) pieces of property now I have twenty and I had that one for 48 years and I just encourage (inaudible) under protest. The only thing I am saying is we had many years that I came here and listened to past water bills not being paid; they took money from the people that didn't pay and I guess our auditor's said at one time we had to clear that up and all those past water bills were supposedly by Council back then; what the dates are I don't know and they were correcting me about when I had that

September 15th, when I brought up that that was the changes in the water policy; I'm asking as a citizen and a property owner that this Council revisits that; I know it's hard to do but if there is any way that there can be relief cause I still think the property owners are not getting a fair shake when it comes to that. That's all I got thank you very much."

Woodrow Thomas – "1302 Pennsylvania. The question I want to ask City Council yall might ask me to keep going further but how does Hanlin get to take somebody's ID and hold five (5) days? If I'm right or wrong when you walk out the door you're supposed to have your ID so if anybody stops you; law official; you can present it to them; I don't have my ID. Now do yall want me to go further into it? They raided my house thinking they were going to find a big dope man now hold that thought; when I first got here Judge Spahn; whatever his name is he's cool with me; he said two (2) things Detroit people come here for; selling dope or killing somebody; so that put me in the mind of racial profile; cause that's racial profiling; okay how come (inaudible) has my ID for five (5) days?"

Mayor Mucci – "Okay Mr. Thomas let me maybe help you out here to clear up; you had mentioned Jane; I'm thinking you're talking about our County Prosecutor Jane Hanlin and (inaudible) Sheriff Abdalla; Fred Abdalla; this is Steubenville City Government; you are talking and referring to County Government officials; this is really the wrong setting we have no control over Jane Hanlin or Fred Abdalla."

Woodrow Thomas – "Okay let me ask you one questions. Where can you recommend that I go too? Because every day like this I walk out my house; right now; I'm in violation of the law without no ID. I don't know who I am."

Mayor Mucci – "Our Law Director maybe be able to handle unless you've talked to a Prosecutor's office or to the Sheriff's office."

Woodrow Thomas – "I already talked to the Prosecutor earlier."

Mayor Mucci – "Well we don't have jurisdiction over any authority over those individuals."

Woodrow Thomas – "Okay yall don't have communication with the Sheriff Department and..."

Mayor Mucci – "Absolutely we have communication with..."

Woodrow Thomas – "Okay then can you give me some type of direction that I can follow?"

Mayor Mucci – "Maybe our Law Director could maybe make a recommendation other than talking to the Sheriff or to the Prosecutor."

Mr. Mavromatis – "Mr. Thomas let me just ask this question. Were you arrested and put in jail?"

Woodrow Thomas – "Yes."

Mr. Mavromatis – "Okay and are you saying that the jail still have your identification?"

Woodrow Thomas – "No the jail."

Mr. Mavromatis – "Okay I think I know. The arresting officer has your ID?"

Woodrow Thomas – "Yes. It was Hanlin."

Mr. Mavromatis – "Okay what I would like you to do; I think what will help you is meet with the Chief right now and go outside and he'll direct you where you need to go cause I think I know."

Woodrow Thomas – "I think I talked to them."

Mr. Mavromatis – "No this is out Chief of Police and if you go right now and tell him exactly what happened I think he can give you the direction you need to go."

Woodrow Thomas – "Okay"

Mr. Mavromatis – "Okay and if he can't then you come to me."

Woodrow Thomas – "Yea but I'm just..."

Mr. Mavromatis – "We'll get it worked out for you."

Woodrow Thomas – "I've been here 11 going on 12 years; I work on cars and stuff; what reason did they have to run up in my house?"

Mr. Mavromatis – "Well I'm sure the Chief can answer that for you Mr. Thomas."

Woodrow Thomas – "I want to know; the people that are accusing me where are they? Listen if I'm a dope man then I'm a dope man."

Mr. Mavromatis – "Okay. Chief help him out."

Anne Sweeny – "710 N. 5th St. I just want to commend out Fire Department and all the other Fire Departments that were out there Saturday night putting out the blaze on 4th and the one up on Spencer and then the other one out on Sinclair. The one on 4th was in my backyard and I am freaking over it because I have a house two doors down from me which I now understand that it's being taken care of by the Land bank but if that went up we would lose four (4) families just that quick; but I really want to commend the officers and the Fire Department and everybody; they were quick on the job and I saw video of that fire and it was unimaginable; thank god it was empty but we need to do something about this arsonist. That's the only way I can look at it three (3) in 24 hours somebody is out there playing with lives and we all need to be vigilant and watch and if you see something say something because nobody is going to rest easy until this is taken care of. There's too many empty houses in town; too many (inaudible), too many places that people; especially with the weather coming and getting colder; there's too many places people are going to have to go in for shelter and fall asleep with a candle or cigarette or whatever; we're going to have more of the same so I really commend the Fire Department for doing their job and the Police were keeping a watchful eye over us. We as citizens have to stand up and help them too. Thank you."

Mark Nelson – "272 County Rd. 26. Speaking as a citizen this evening trying to bring up a couple of things. One of them is about the medical marijuana that got brought up earlier; if I was in your guy's shoes I would send a

letter to the legislator telling them that they ought to put it in the pharmacy and put the burden back on the State Legislators and have the stuff dispensed through pharmacies then it's not an extra issue for any smaller communities across the state. As far as welcoming business here they are time as communities do limit legal businesses a perfect example is the (inaudible) up the river the community there is not happy; I wouldn't be happy if they were going to put one here in our community either but it would be a legal business. So it's pumping poison into the air and I think the concern of many citizens is this is another type of way to pumping poison into people's bodies even though sometimes it is helpful; put the burden back on the state; feed it through the pharmacies. Did you say Mike that it has to be limited where it is placed? Like away from churches and things like that."

Mr. Johnson – "It cannot be within 500 feet of a church, a school, a public park, and I think that's it."

Mark Nelson – "It just raised a question if it's so good then why does it have to be limited to where it's being placed?"

Mr. Paul – "It's similar to a bar."

Mr. DiLoreto – "It's similar to a bar."

Mark Nelson – "Yea if you have a bar by a school or a church."

Mayor Mucci – "Let Mr. Nelson finish."

Mark Nelson – "Just raising a question. The bigger issue I guess this evening that I wanted to speak on which I had no intents on I really don't want to darken the doors of the chamber here speaking any more than I do unfortunately. This has to do with the fires over the weekend; our family was one of the victims of the of one of the arsons; I'm sure some of you guys know that by now; that's the major issue the major crime I make no means to circumvent that problem as Mrs. Sweeny said there's an arsonist in the community that I pray to God that he gets arrested soon before more homes or more buildings are burnt down. The arson that occurred on Spencer at the home that we own brought to light a problem that you guys discussed earlier in the Safety meeting having to do with the fire hydrants that did not work when the Fire Departments showed up; because of that again my family this occurred too; you guys put yourselves in my shoes; thank god there was no life loss or anyone injured but there was property loss; a perfectly good house sitting at the end of the street that we had not yet begun to work on we had landscaping; we cleaned up; we've taken it over from a lady that was moving on; it was not an abandoned house the taxes were not behind on it; it was a vacant home not different from many of our parents when they go to Florida their homes become temporally vacant for a few months. The five (5) fire hydrants that were closest that did not work is as Mr. Murphy said there's one right across the street from the house 10 feet off the front door, there's another one 50 feet away, there's another one 200 feet away, there's another one down the hill, and there's a fifth one down in front of Steubenville Plate Glass. When I arrived at about 4:30 that morning there were four (4) different departments with their trucks strung and piggy backed all the way up that road; every 400 feet they parked a truck attempting to pump water from the Steubenville Plate location all the way up that hill and then extinguish what was left of the burning home and you guys can pull transcripts if they exist; they're with the Fire Department I was listening to the radio standing next to the first most truck which I believe was a Mingo truck and the guys at the bottom of the hill said that there was no water coming out; they can't even fill their own truck. I'm not making it up I was standing right next to Chief or the Captain I don't know mister; I forget his name at this point but he was there it was his birthday he was supposed to be off; he worked very hard; all of the men worked hard it has nothing to do with the quality of service that the Fire Department delivered any; they showed up to the fight but there was no ammunition to fight with; they also stated that there's not enough water on the local trucks to deal with these; the County trucks do carry more water the tanker trucks by the time Mingo realized there was no water; Wintersville had no water and Dillonvale was already there the tanker truck was back in the garage; it was an hour later and it was time to go home; thank god there were no homes there; there are seven (7) or eight (8) homes up there; I still own two (2) of the homes up there within hundreds of feet from my own business; I saw Mr. Mavromatis had mentioned that on Sunday afternoon actually and I think the guys were out checking on Sunday or Monday actually some family members saw the firemen checking the fire hydrants along Lincoln. I just want to point out that we as business owners I think are required by the State of Ohio or at least by the local Fire Department I think to have a fire extinguisher in the corners of all the rooms to be tagged every year with an annual inspection; I think it's a yearly requirement; I think everyone has a (inaudible) system and a restaurant has to have that checked once a year; I think everyone that has a sprinkler in their building has to have that checked once a year; so we have the best fire extinguishers the best sprinklers system the best (inaudible) and the fire hydrant outside the street might not work because as we heard tonight there's not a requirement within the City that the staff has checked; I don't know who's responsibility it is but you heard it that their not being checked so because of that I have petitioned the City I put together a letter for Mr. Mastros I know I e-mailed him earlier I have not heard back to see whether or not he had received it but it's basically an open records act using the State Law that they give the citizens who put in for information against local municipalities or any public office really for a subdivision of the State of Ohio to gain access to public record to try to determine some of what is going on within local government or whatever type to be used against the County, the City, Jefferson County Water District, any subdivision in the State of Ohio; the subject Ohio open records act you can do that with. In that I asked when they've been tested and again it's not for me my house is gone that house is gone; it's for anyone else's home anybody else's lives; the number 1 purpose of government or I think it's number 1 or one of the major ones who's obviously to protect the lives and the property of the citizens and I just hope that this experience because no lives were lost (inaudible) down the road. Thank you."

Therese Nelson – "419 County Road 26 and I'm here speaking of half of the Steubenville Young Preservationist tonight; which is a group of (inaudible) who are looking to preserve Steubenville's History, environment, (all

inaudible). Tonight I would like to express my disappointment in the Council in supporting marijuana; I realize you are not making any motions to invite the dispensaries to town but by (inaudible) your (inaudible) to anything and I realize that it's going to be allowed in Toronto or it might be allowed anywhere else in Jefferson County but we are Jefferson County's (inaudible) and this is our opportunity as a County and as the greatest City here to be against drugs and to take a stand as a community that wants to be drug free; all we hear everywhere in the news is that Steubenville has a drug problem whether it's heroin, marijuana, or any type of drug is that Steubenville has a drug problem and I don't like going to other places in the country and saying yea I'm from Steubenville and their like oh well you have a lot of problems. I like my place as in hearing people saying wow you have a great community; that sounds like an awesome place to live I want to bring my family there. I realize that marijuana is legal in the State but just because as Mr. Nelson said there are other businesses that are legal; 10 or 12 jobs is not a loss to the community and perhaps we could encourage other businesses to open or for instance help out businesses that are already trying to open that might be bringing business to the community that will be (inaudible). We need jobs our economy is struggling here in Steubenville but it's like a starving man and if you're going to feed it and give it food poisoning then there's no point in feeding; I mean you need to give him good food and Steubenville needs good jobs and Steubenville needs positive; good things; Steubenville has a very recent history of (inaudible) legislation we don't necessarily put things into place to prevent problems we react to them and since the fire hydrants; had we gone ahead with make sure those working we wouldn't of had the problems with the fires (all inaudible) and we wouldn't of lost two (2) beautiful historic structures this evening and I think that if we take a stand now and ask that medical marijuana not be allowed in Steubenville; we won't run into problems down the road and maybe someone finds out that medical marijuana is not such a great thing; it's not scientifically proven; has anyone talked to the medical professional in the valley asking their opinions on having medical marijuana? Has anyone gone to the hospitals? Has anyone gone to the private doctors and asked them if this is okay? If this is something they are interested in having in their community? Because if it is not then I'm going to go and I'm going to get a petition that Steubenville has legislation against medical marijuana in the County; until it can be scientifically proven that this is something that is going to benefit everyone and not just sort of sometimes; we have other medical procedures and drugs that can help people bring (inaudible) marijuana also helps with it's a universal drug. We always had a drug problem we don't need to encourage that by doing nothing. On another note as a preservationist we look forward to preserving some of Steubenville's History that includes all the beautiful structures that we have here whether they're in the historic district or not as the house that burned down unfortunately on 4th Street was part of the historic district but also the house that our family owned has a lot of historic significance it was in the Deer Hunter movie; it's one of the oldest houses in Steubenville. Some of the other beautiful structures in Steubenville are (inaudible) for demolition and the Young Preservationist don't want to see those houses go especially if they can be saved and if they are not completely public nuisances; so we would like to propose a project that we are willing to take on I realize that Steubenville City Government doesn't necessarily have all of the capacity to do this but other cities are doing it and I think that it's in Steubenville's best interest to pursue this plan; I will present my plan when I have it fully but I have some questions right now for whoever has them; I know Chris Petrossi left this questions are specifically for him but last week I believe Mr. DiLoreto you mentioned that there are approximately 55 structures that are (inaudible) for demolition in the future?"

Mr. DiLoreto – "Yes."

Therese Nelson – "Does someone have a list of those structures."

Mr. DiLoreto – "You may have a list of them."

Therese Nelson – "So if the preservationist could have that list of buildings we are very interested in that; but I would like to know how that list was compiled and who has been going around determining that those homes need to be demolished or condemned?"

Mayor Mucci – "I would suggest that you make an appointment with Mr. Petrossi we can provide you with a list; all Council has that but he can go through the documentation he has on those structures and the conditions that they are in and how it was determined to be an unsafe structure."

Therese Nelson – "So basically what other cities are doing that I've seen is instead of using funds to demolish these buildings they are taking those funds and using them for rehabilitation purposes and I know there are (inaudible) structures that have be slated for demolition that have passed the Council that have passed the Historic Landmark Commission even that are not structurally in any danger of falling down on someone; some don't need to be demolished someone just needs to fix them up and that. I believe we are using the community development funds to tear these buildings down; I think that money could be used better to fix these buildings up; the Steubenville College building was slated for demolition when (all inaudible) passed it; we are now in position that the landlords need to restore it and keep that piece of history in Steubenville; so I would like to do the same thing with a lot of the other buildings in Steubenville what I've seen other communities do is before a building can be demolished a form has to be sent through for possible historic significance and the building does not have to be in the historic district; it does not have to have any sort of historic plaque on it (all inaudible) but any building owner for the city has to fill this out and on the first page you have to specify the year that this building was built; if the building is over 50 years old it has to go before another commission that determines the historic significance and the owner of the building or whoever is putting it through for demolition has to fill out two (2) pages of information about the significance of it in the neighborhood (inaudible) history or events like being in a movie or if famous people have lived there and (all inaudible) that might be job of the landmarks commission and it would obviously going to be a big project that involves the land bank and the port authority but I think it's something that Steubenville really needs to look into and I'd be willing along with other preservationist do the research on

this list of building that you've given me to see about saving them and to find people that will be willing to purchase them for a fee and start..."

Mayor Mucci – "Let me just explain to you that most of those homes on that list are privately owned. They might be in foreclosure but the City of Steubenville does not have ownership of those properties and don't have the flexibility of cutting deals for X amount of dollars."

Therese Nelson – "But Steubenville has the right to tear those buildings down."

Mayor Mucci – "Okay now you have occupied us with some good thoughts this evening; there is a Planning Committee and a lot of this falls under the Planning Committee scheduled in two (2) Tuesdays from now on the 19th I would suggest that you plan to attend that Planning Committee; speak to the chairman Mr. Johnson and maybe he can even have some time of the agenda for the committee meeting to express those concerns."

Mr. Johnson – "Well part of what we're going to talk about on the 19th is what Columbus, Ohio is doing, what Detroit is doing; vacant lot next to a home owner that home owner could purchase it for \$150.00; Columbus has a program where a 50% program and a 100% program to put (inaudible) of the value into a home under the 50% program you can become the owner of that house; that's what I want to try to get use too but to do that we have to get help from the land bank; Columbus runs theirs all through the land bank we're going to start the land bank conversation next Tuesday in Mr. Villamagna's Economic Development Committee; we're going to continue it the following Tuesday the 19th to come up with a plan; right now we're knocking houses down and there's plan to repurpose the land; to the extent some of these houses can be saved; I mean I believe the city would be all for it; the money were knocking down now; the ordinance we passed last week that was using Community Development Grant money but the other money we are using is the Sanitation Fund and that money can only be used for sanitation which demolishing a house qualifies but taking that money to get somebody to approve that house doesn't qualify so we couldn't use that money for that purpose. I'm more than willing to listen to any idea you have; I mean I want to try to come up with a plan and we're starting that conversation next week."

Tony Piergallini – "710 Lawson in Steubenville. I worked for the Police Department for 25 years and I was a DARE officer for 18; some of the members here in Council were here when I started that project; I started it when Villamagna was there. I think you're treading on thin ice but you've heard both sides form your own group and members here in Council Chambers tonight; think hard on these prospects of 5-15 jobs that you're looking at; I understand that you're looking for business; I understand we are looking for income but the people in this community could look at City Council as hypocrites; we're paying an officer to educate our kids on the consequences of using and not using alcohol, tobacco, and legal and illegal drugs and if you think these legal marijuana products are not going to come out of some grandparents medicine cabinet and end up on the street just like Percocet, OxyContin, and others please think on your decisions."

Mr. DiLoreto – "Mark I don't want to get into an argument with you; I think the world of you; when I was up there on Spencer Ave. last week; I walk up there ever so often and that house that burnt down probably could never be replenished but I don't know. I got more houses in my ward, more complaints to the parents that live next to them, the drugs, rats, rodents, cutting grass (all inaudible), he cuts more grass than the city does on these empty lots; if these lots want to be sold fine they can be sold but take care of them, put people in them, cut the grass, and keep good people in them. I have night riders they come in at 6:00 at night and leave at 6:00 in the morning and leave all their garbage and trash and leave me and Mr. Mavromatis to pick it up plus the water bill they leave; we don't know who they are my neighbors. Any property; am I right mayor? Has three (3) sales the Sheriff sale, the auditor sale, and the treasurer sale; all these properties; go down there I think there's some (inaudible) gave them a phone number you can buy those properties; you buy it; just take care of it and make it livable place because you're poor doesn't mean you can't be clean. Thank you."

Mark Nelson – "Mr. DiLoreto are you addressing me in that way?"

Mr. DiLoreto – "No."

Mark Nelson – "I would like him to clarify how I'm involved in any of that."

Mr. DiLoreto – "No we just mentioned your house because they got board up."

Mark Nelson – "Cause the grass is mowed."

Mr. DiLoreto – "No no there's no grass up there. I won't argue no more."

Mr. Villamagna – "Couple things to clarify and nothing derogatory towards you; nothing against Tommy or anybody in the (inaudible); but the houses that we're talking about are realistically the house on North 4th Street has been vacant for 15 years; worthless; does it have historical value? It did at one time; to remodel it; it would've cost a fortune. The last time that house was occupied on Spencer Mark was how long ago?"

Mark Nelson – "Four (4) years ago."

Mr. Villamagna – "Four (4) years ago. They are attractive nuisances; we're saying it was an arsonist; I got a different idea of what happened there; you got homeless people you got drug addicts that go in there with spoons and I'm not saying that's what happened; there's two (2) sides; it's an attractive nuisance people go in there; they do their dope; they fall asleep; they light a candle; Imperial Hotel the Fire Department; they lit a fire up on the top floor to keep warm and caught the place on fire. There's hundreds of homes in this; we started out with the count of 38,000 people, there's 17,000 when they left they didn't take their house with them; they left those houses here; those houses are in run down condition you cannot own 16-20 properties in the city and take care of all those properties. Now did you cut the grass and everything? Yes and it's an unfortunate thing; I'm not saying the houses are going to burn down; the house was not occupied and it wasn't going to be occupied in the near future and that house on North 4th Street there's no way a homeless person would even go in there. So when we say homes and going to Florida like your mother and father does it's a complete different story."

Mark Nelson – “I disagree Mr. Villamagna.”

Mr. Villamagna – “That’s my opinion you had yours and I got mine. This historical thing there’s a project going on in Canton, OH next to the Hall of Fame; eight hundred million dollar job; being held up by one house because the person wants an astronomical amount of money because the city never took it. Now we talk about Economic Development; we talk about preserving houses; we talk about all of this together we can’t have our cake and eat it too; when I go to the Port Authority meeting; shovel ready jobs; we need property; Steubenville has zero; zero to offer anybody in property development; now we got buildings after buildings downtown that people own; nobody in them; no realtor signs on them; one realtor signed on one building down there and it sold. We can’t have it both ways it’s impossible to have houses 3-4 years, 15 years, 20 years, those houses on Lincoln Ave. I’ve been walking past since I was a child; they’re vacant, they’re ruined, they got to come down; the time has come we’re either going to restore the historical property and that we need people that are going to do it; money; money; lots of money. You can’t own 16-20 properties unless you’re a billionaire and just want to spend money just doing all this stuff. There’s people that own 60 properties; it can’t be done. We have to make up our mind as a Council whether if we’re going to be Economic Developers or we’re going to be Historians; I sat over here at the Fort watching these videos; great videos; they showed me Seattle, they showed me this town, they show me that town, they show me little towns big towns all beautiful downtown areas; gorgeous they’re beautiful; the old got to go the new has to come in; we got; Dom what’s our plan?”

Mayor Mucci – “Comprehensive Plan.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Comprehensive Plan we paid \$75,000.00 for that plan; it’s beautiful and I hope; not in my life time cause it ain’t going to happen in my life time; maybe those kids there life time; those things are gorgeous and I want them I want all the same things you want; I want restaurants, I want hotels here; where are we going to build a hotel at down there? Unless we take some of this property out of here that’s vacant, windows out of it, preserve it? Seriously? That’s all I got to say about that cause those were not homes. They were houses and they were unoccupied they were not homes; homes is where we all live at. The medical marijuana thing; it’s legal; it’s going to be prescribed; everything known to mankind is abused; I don’t care; you can’t name not one thing that is not abused by a human being; it’s ashamed but that’s the way it is. Do we want to be known as the Council who brought medical marijuana in cause kids are going to be affected by it and all; okay that’s one side; what about this side; how about somebody’s mother or grandmother who’s dying and has cancer or has multiple sclerosis and she’s 90 years old; she’s got about an hour, a year, 2 years to live; would that marijuana help her and I go like this; it’s not smoking marijuana nobody is going to be smoking marijuana; this is pill form and if I can help that one woman that’s what I want to be known as; am I right? I don’t know but nobody out here is God and I ain’t either; we as Council and I say it all the time; got seven (7) people up here from all walks of life trying to do the best that we can; you guys want to preserve stuff let’s get some money and go restore these houses; let’s go by the codes; let’s not make up our own rules and do what we want to do; I’m tired I take time out of this; I’m devoted to this city I’ve been here all my life; I didn’t just get here; I’ve been here I’ve struggled through this whole thing; I participate in everything and (inaudible) but we got to do this and everything is beautiful; everything ain’t beautiful; we need money that’s what takes it; are there people willing to give money to do things; that’s the people you need; I can debate it all night long but I think I’ve had enough time.”

Mayor Mucci – “Let me clear up the approach that City Council is taking on a variety of subjects continue to be discussed and talked about again next Tuesday the Economic Development Committee will be meeting; sit in the audience; listen; because you feel and see what Council is thinking and what direction and then we’re going to follow it up also on September 19th at a Planning Committee Meeting about dilapidated structures and zoning codes and everything so we’ll continue to have this conversation and I’m sure it will be a lively conversation.”

Council Chambers were cleared for Executive Session.

Council Chambers were reopened for adjournment.

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

ATTEST: _____
CLERK OF COUNCIL

APPROVED: _____
MAYOR