

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
October 23, 2018

The Regular Meeting of City Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. with Mayor Barilla presiding. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by Roll Call.

Present were Councilmen DiLoreto, Dressel, Hahn, Paul, Petrella, Timmons, & Villamagna.

Also present; City Manager Jim Mavromatis, Law Director Costa Mastros, Finance Director Dave Lewis, Parks and Recreation Director Lori Fetherolf, Wastewater Superintendent Chuck Murphy, Utility Supervisor Lisa Knight, Linda Harris from the Herald Star, & WTOV9.

APPROVAL/CORRECTION OF MINUTES

Minutes were approved by Mrs. Hahn for October 16, 2018. Second by Mr. Timmons. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved minutes accepted declared Mayor Barilla.

PETITIONS/COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Barilla – “Petitions and Communications Madame Clerk?”

Mrs. Haley – “Nothing this evening.”

Mayor Barilla – “Thank you Madam Clerk.”

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Mayor Barilla – “We’ll now move on to ordinances and resolutions before City Council this evening. We’ll take a little detour here and start out instead of with the ordinances we’re going to begin with Resolution No. 2018-76 by Council as a whole. Mr. Mavromatis.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Thank you you’re Honor. We’ve prepared a resolution; I was contacted by Cooper Chipps and what this is is a Resolution commemorating a Special Agent from the United States Drug Enforcement Administration that was kidnapped, tortured, and murdered in February of 1985; and what came out of this was a red ribbon celebration throughout our Country and what a lot of these (inaudible) if you didn’t realize at that time; this started an international manhunt for the people involved in this kidnapping, torture, and murder. So Cooper Chipps is a member of the Young Marines and he asked that he would like to present this resolution and we have welcomed him and his mother here this evening. So Cooper if you could come up here please. This is for you; this is a ribbon and a badge from the DEA and if you can stand here I’m going to have our Clerk of Council read the resolution and I’ll present it to you. Thank you.”

Cooper Chipps – “Thank you.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Yes sir.”

NO. 2018-76 – BY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 23-31, 2018 AS RED RIBBON WEEK.

Mrs. Haley – “Whereas, communities across America have been plagued by the numerous problems associated with illicit drug use and those that traffic in them; and whereas, there is hope in winning the war on drugs, and that hope lies in education and drug demand reduction, coupled with the hard work and determination of organizations such as the Young Marines of the Marines Corps League to foster a healthy, drug-free lifestyle; and whereas, governments and community leaders know that citizen support is one of the most effective tools in the effort to reduce the use of illicit drugs in our communities; and whereas, the red ribbon has been chosen as a symbol commemorating the work of Enrique “Kiki” Camarena, a Drug Enforcement Administration agent who was murdered in the line of duty, and represents the belief that one person can make a difference; and whereas, the Red Ribbon Campaign was established by Congress in 1988 to encourage a drug-free lifestyle and involvement in drug prevention and reduction efforts; and whereas, October 23rd-October 31st is National Red Ribbon Week, which encourages Americans to wear a red ribbon to show their support for a drug-free environment. Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Council of the City of Steubenville, County of Jefferson, State of Ohio: Section 1: That this Council does hereby proclaim the week of October 23rd through October 31, 2018 as RED RIBBON WEEK throughout the City of Steubenville and urge all citizens to join in this special observance. Section 2: That the Clerk of this Council shall send a certified copy of this Resolution to Cooper Chipps. Section 3: That this Resolution shall take effect and be in full force immediately upon its passage and approval by Council; otherwise at the earliest period allowed by law.”

Mr. Paul made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2018-76 by roll call. Second by Mr. Petrella. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Resolution No. 2018-76 is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla.

Mr. Mavromatis – “Cooper on behalf of our City, all of our Council people here, we present you this resolution and thank you very much for taking the lead in meeting us in this. Congratulations. Thank you. Ms. Chipps thank you very much for bringing your son.”

Mr. DiLoreto – “Thank you.”

Mayor Barilla – “Well done.”

NO. 2018-72 – BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Messrs. Paul, Dressel, Timmons

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 921.04(A) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF STEUBENVILLE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mayor Barilla – “Mrs. Hahn.”

Mrs. Hahn – “Thank you. Since the crisis that we had in January we’ve been spending hours and hours trying to balance the concerns of our citizens and how much they can afford of raising rates with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency’s consent decrees; one on our sewer and one on our water system. I helped plan for the future without saddling the next generation with so much debt that we’ve created a new crisis. We had the two town halls last week and I’m convinced that the presentations that you were given did show you how serious the situation is. At the same time part of what we wrestled with is did we present the rates as they needed to be raised in a way that best addresses the problem. We recognize as a Council that the sewer fund actually is in greater need. Without adjusting the base utility rate increase is what we all committed to. We’re proposing the following adjustment to our plan and we’ll have to do it one codified ordinance at a time. I want you to know the big picture. So what we’re going to do is have the two infrastructure plans; the two infrastructure funds be funded at \$6.00 initially instead of 7. We already have the water infrastructure fund; we’re going to establish the sewer infrastructure fund but instead of putting both at the rate of \$7.00 to begin with we’re going to put them at 6 and instead have that \$2.00 amount be an increase to the sewer fund. So that the first thousand gallons will be increased by \$1.00 and the second will be increases by a dollar; base rate is 2,000 gallons. Council’s united in moving forward. We have listened to the administration, the engineering firms, and you all. We’ve worked towards conscientious for the overall increase and I’m gratified that we also had demonstrated a lot of flexibility in trying to work out what can be the best rates for our City. We will not fix that (inaudible) of deterioration but this is a very good faith solution to our current crisis and we have built in some incremental increases in the years to come so that we don’t have to have this kind of large increase at one point. Just today I spoke personally with both Senator Frank Hoagland and then we had about 10 minutes the City Manager and I with Representative Bill Johnson who represents us in Washington D.C. and we urged them to help us find the way forward you know grants and low interest loans. So we’ll see what (all inaudible). So now we’ll go ahead and we’ll take this one codified ordinance at a time; we’ll need to propose the amendments and then we’ll go from there.”

Mr. Paul – “Can I say something?”

Mayor Barilla – “Yeah.”

Mr. Paul – “I just want to thank Mrs. Hahn for everything she’s done. She has worked very hard at this I know Mr. Villamagna also and everyone else on Council has worked hard at this but Mrs. Hahn has worked very hard and I know; I said this the other day Dave Lewis we asked him to take the job that he has and we’ve always had our utmost faith in Dave and we always did. Mrs. Hahn come up with a solution; hopefully it’s best for what we need to do and I don’t want you to think I’ve ever; I love you Dave you’re great and that’s why we asked you to do what you do and you do a great job; you and your whole staff Lisa and Dave and he’s not here but the rest of them. Mrs. Hahn has worked very hard and I hope this is a good solution; amicable solution for the City if we have to revisit it later on; I don’t know I mean we will but she has worked very hard. I just wanted to acknowledge that that Mrs. Hahn has worked diligently at this; she was away this weekend and still worked on her phone to get this ironed out.”

Unknown – “Thank you.”

Mrs. Hahn – “It’s my privilege.”

Mr. Paul – “It’s all her so…”

Mayor Barilla – “Thank you Mr. Paul.”

Mrs. Hahn – “So the amendment that’s proposed for Ordinance No. 2018-72 is there’s two elements. The first is the water infrastructure charge this is section 921.04(C); water infrastructure charge will drop \$1.00 per year instead of it being \$7.00, \$8.00, \$9.00, \$10.00, \$11.00 in the years going forward the proposal (inaudible) amendment is \$6.00, \$7.00, \$8.00, \$9.00, and \$10.00. These changes are also noted in section B as well. The other amendment; do we have to do it amendment by amendment?”

Mr. Mastros – “This is one big amendment.”

Mr. Paul and Mrs. Hahn – “(All inaudible).”

Mrs. Hahn – “Okay. Okay then we also want to add a sentence that says this “the initial rate increases and the initial infrastructure charge herein shall be effective on November 1, 2018 or as soon as possible thereafter. Each subsequent year the effective date will be October of that year.” So those are the changes.”

Mr. Dressel – “October 1? October what?”

Mrs. Hahn – “October 1.”

Mr. Dressel – “Okay

Mrs. Hahn – “I guess it should be. Thank you.”

Mrs. Hahn made a motion to amend Ordinance No. 2018-72. Second by Mr. Paul. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved motion carried declared Mayor Barilla.

NO. 2018-72 – as amended – BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Messrs. Paul, Dressel, Timmons

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 921.04(A) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF STEUBENVILLE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mayor Barilla – “You’ve heard the reading of Ordinance No. 2018-72 as amended. If there is anyone wishing to speak on Ordinance No. 2018-72 as amended please come forward and state your name and address.”

Mr. Paul called question. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Ordinance No. 2018-72 as amended is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla. This ordinance will come go into effect immediately.

NO. 2018-73 – BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Messrs. Paul, Dressel, Timmons

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 925.05(B) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF STEUBENVILLE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mayor Barilla – “Mrs. Hahn.”

Mrs. Hahn – “Yes. So Ordinance No. 2018-73 section 925.6 rates section B. The amendment is the rate per 1,000 gallons will increase \$1.00. So the minimum bill for 2,000 gallons will increase \$2.00; factor in the 3% ongoing increase the adjusted rates are as follows: Year one will now be \$10.51 with a minimum bill of 2,000 gallons, \$21.02. Year two \$10.83; 2,000 gallons \$21.66. Year three \$11.16; 2,000 gallons \$22.32. Year four \$11.49 at 2,000 \$22.98 and year five \$11.83 minimum bill of the 2,000 gallons \$23.66. We also want to add a sentence; “The initial rate increase herein should be effective on November 1, 2018 or as soon as possible thereafter. Each subsequent year the effective date will be October 1 of that year.” Same thing.

Mrs. Hahn made a motion to amend Ordinance No. 2018-73. Second by Mr. Paul. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved motion carried declared Mayor Barilla.

NO. 2018-73 – as amended – BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Messrs. Paul, Dressel, Timmons

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 925.05(B) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF STEUBENVILLE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mayor Barilla – “You’ve heard the reading of Ordinance No. 2018-73 as amended. If there is anyone wishing to speak on Ordinance No. 2018-73 as amended please come forward and state your name and address.”

Mr. Paul called question. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Ordinance No. 2018-73 as amended is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla. This ordinance will go into effect immediately.

NO. 2018-74 – BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Messrs. Paul, Dressel, Timmons

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 951.11(A) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF STEUBENVILLE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mayor Barilla – “You’ve heard the reading of Ordinance No. 2018-74. If there is anyone wishing to speak on Ordinance No. 2018-74 please come forward and state your name and address.”

Mr. Paul called question. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Ordinance No. 2018-74 is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla. This ordinance will go into effect immediately.

NO. 2018-75 – BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Messrs. Paul, Dressel, Timmons

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING AND CREATING A SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT FUND AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mayor Barilla – “Mrs. Hahn.”

Mrs. Hahn – “So with this ordinance this is the one creating the new sewer infrastructure fund and just so you are aware we have to actually get permission from the Ohio Auditor’s office. We have to pass it. Dave Lewis is going to send it to them tomorrow morning. Within 30 days they’re going to have an answer for us we are really hoping it’s sooner but that’s why there won’t be an effective date attached until we hear back that it is approved by them and then we’ll amend it at that time but we do need to amend the monthly fee. So instead of \$7.00, \$8.00, \$9.00, \$10.00, \$11.00 it will now be \$6.00, \$7.00, \$8.00, \$9.00, and \$10.00. We’re taking that down \$1.00 because of the (all inaudible).”

Mrs. Hahn made a motion to amend Ordinance No. 2018-75. Second by Mr. Paul. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved motion carried declared Mayor Barilla.

NO. 2018-75 – as amended – BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Messrs. Paul, Dressel, Timmons

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING AND CREATING A SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT FUND AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mayor Barilla – “You’ve heard the reading of Ordinance No. 2018-75 as amended. If there is anyone wishing to speak on Ordinance No. 2018-75 as amended please come forward and state your name and address.”

Mr. Paul called question. Roll Call. All ayes. So moved Ordinance No. 2018-75 as amended is duly adopted declared Mayor Barilla. This ordinance will go into effect immediately.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Mr. DiLoreto – “Yeah I have two ordinances. It regards the water so please bear with me. (All inaudible). Ordinance No. 2018-77 an ordinance authorizing and designating the City Manager as the Local Official with the authority to execute the project known as the Water Valve Replacement/Rehabilitation and Leak Detection Project, and complete all necessary functions that may be required to complete said project, including but not limited to, engineering design services, right of way services including acquisition of right of way, utility relocation, construction administration/inspection services, bidding services, advertising for bids for construction, re-bidding if required, entering into a contract with the lowest most qualified bidder and authorizing payment therefore and declaring an emergency. Okay? Ordinance No. 2018-78 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 2019, authorizing the right to reject any and all bids, authorizing entering into contracts, payment thereof and declaring an emergency. Thank you.”

Mr. Dressel – “I had one thing I needed to bring up that we’ve already discussed but we had a request to get the marina cleaned up for people who are trying to access the boat ramp which is still covered with debris from the last flood. As no one had time because they’re probably doing fall cleanup so they’ve been busy. At the same time I’ve become aware that the; from the same individual; is the person here that was e-mailing me? Is that you? No it’s not you. So if Jim if you have any questions you might want to talk to him after but that the ODNR may have funding available to fix that (inaudible) and know what the City’s aware so if they haven’t contacted the City yet as far as getting access to us; so it’s not us but they want to apparently fix the ramp, pave parking, or clean up the parking anyway and then add a dock potentially alongside there.”

Unknown – “That’s what we discussed.”

Mr. Dressel – “So I know we have heard about that about a year ago and nothing transpired so maybe we could figure out who to contact to see if there’s something we could do to help make that actually happen by spring that’d be nice. Thanks.”

Mrs. Hahn – “The only thing I was going to mention was this and I wondered if Lori if you wanted to say something specific about it. We’re trying to figure out who; who has authority in terms of use of the marina and for tournaments and whether or not that really needs to come through our Parks and Recreation Board. Do you have anything you want to share tonight or is it just something that we bring to the board?”

Lori Fetherolf – “So from my experience here we had several businesses contact us an awful a lot (inaudible) and it is also that I know so that I can tell my staff to get things taken care of. That’s just so that there’s enough lead way for me so that’s; it’s kind of a reminder that if you want to use any parks just let me know so that we can make sure that things are taken care of because we’re all shorthanded and the short amount of time I get it’s not always going to be possible to have.”

Mrs. Hahn – “Thanks.”

Mr. Paul – “Yes you’re Honor I have one item. Next Tuesday I would like to call a Finance Committee meeting; 6:00; that’s why I interrupted you Karly.”

Mrs. Haley – “Sorry.”

Mr. Paul – “I was talking to Mr. Lewis. 6:00 we’ll discuss; Dave will bring up finances from last month and we’ll also talk about what we’re going to do going forward with the budget for next year. Okay?”

Mayor Barilla – “Thank you.”

Mr. Paul – “Thank you.”

Mr. Petrella – No Report

Mr. Timmons – “Yes I would like to sunshine a resolution proclaiming November 2018 as Lung Cancer Awareness Month.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Yes Mayor thank you. I didn’t get to clarify some of the things last week because I got angry and you did your job. Just I didn’t have this with me last week so I didn’t want to say it because I wasn’t sure because numbers of this amount.”

Mayor Barilla – “Okay.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Baffle me sometimes okay. There was an e-mail sent from Dave Lewis to Jim; the City Manager Mr. Mavromatis sent; it was on Friday May 18th and I had received it from Mr. Mavromatis on the 22nd of May. It said: ‘Hi Jim, Councilman Villamagna asked Tuesday what money is available for the police move. Let me know if you have any questions. The three major funds that the money are available in are Fund 6 city equipment \$200,000; Fund 18 federal asset forfeiture \$183,600; Fund 80 general capital projects \$171,300. The amounts listed are the total amounts available as of today obviously other unknown at this time, expenditures may need to be paid from these funds in the future. If there are some small expenses say under a few thousand dollars we would just use the expense account such as building maintenance, data processing, and safety accounts. Let me know if you want to go over this information with Mr. Villamagna or if you want me to forward the information and those funds totaled \$554,900 to which I was told that \$255,000 of the \$554,000 would be available. That’s what I had written on this e-mail so that is all I wanted to clarify that my intention was not to redline any accounts or to bankrupt any accounts. There was the money in there that was available for that move and that’s why I wasn’t budgeting for it because that’s where the money was coming out of. I just wanted to...”

Mayor Barilla – “Clarify”

Mr. Villamagna – “Let you know that so you understand where I was coming from.”

Mayor Barilla – “Okay thank you.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Thank you very much.”

Mayor Barilla – “Thank you Mr. Villamagna. Appreciate it.”

REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Mr. Mavromatis – “Thank you Mayor. Mr. Villamagna you talked with Mr. Baird on two locations.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Yeah.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “I don’t want to repeat them.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Right.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “The one is going to be picked up. The owner and or tenant will be billed for that. And the second one was the person was ill; later passed away we’re going to take care of that one. It will be done today; could be done tomorrow.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Yeah the first one; well I called him on the first one; the death one now that’s a whole different story.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Yeah.”

Mr. Villamagna – “But to; after I had called Bob.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Okay.”

Mr. Villamagna – “I did some further investigation and the people that own that house.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Okay.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Are from Texas.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Okay.”

Mr. Villamagna – “They talked to a neighbor.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Okay.”

Mr. Villamagna – “And the neighbor told them to have their garbage out before 7:00 Saturday. They’re from out of town they had no idea.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Okay.”

Mr. Villamagna – “And they got up at two o’clock in the morning to put all that stuff outside.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Okay.”

Mr. Villamagna – “So that it would be out by 7.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Okay and this was for the bulk pickup?”

Mr. Villamagna – “Yeah.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Okay.”

Mr. Villamagna – “They had not; they just got here from Texas.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Okay.”

Mr. Villamagna – “And the neighbor told them that it was Saturday.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Okay. And it was Friday.”

Mr. Villamagna – “And it was really Friday so I don’t know if you can make the adjustment.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “We’ll take care of it.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Okay. Alright.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Few weeks ago Mr. Dressel you brought up about the garbage cans for the LaBelle and Pleasant Heights area. Just so Council knows where we’re at here we have 6 – 96 gallon cans left, 12 – 64 gallon cans left, and 8 – 48 gallon cans. I cannot issue all those cans out because we have customers that we have to take; we cannot give cans to these groups here but what I can do is order more cans. The other thing is having people mark our cans which we may have to bring back. We can order different color lids and that’s what I’m going to ask Mr. Baird to do. Is there any issue here with Council? The lids will be different clearly anybody that takes that can we know it’s automatically; it belongs and where it goes too.”

Mr. Dressel – “Okay.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “And we will go then. So I will direct Mr. Baird to get that order in so we can get those.”

Mr. Dressel – “Okay.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Also I’m going to have him order sufficient cans because what I see happening and based on a statistical use; we’re getting into the holiday season; people are going to want extra cans because of everything that goes on. So we’re going to get another order of cans it officially keeps us prepared here. Did Council receive your dog report?”

Mr. Villamagna – “Yes.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Okay so we have that taken care of. Again I appreciate Council’s participation in Red Ribbon Week and we had a resolution also prepared that will be sent back to the Drug Enforcement Administration and that’s all I have to report tonight.”

Mayor Barilla – “Thank you Mr. Mavromatis. We’ll now turn to our Law Director Mr. Mastros. I’m sorry.”

Mr. Petrella – “Jim on the cans. Are we just ordering the 96 gallon cans for the extras? I know it’s going to be 96 gallons for the group.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Well again Mr. Baird will look at the numbers that we need to beef up on the smaller units but the 96 is what we need. I wouldn’t put anything smaller than a 96 on Pleasant Heights or LaBelle for that program.”

Mr. Petrella – “Oh no I’m not talking about the program. You said extras because of the holidays.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Well again that’s going to come up. We haven’t been through a complete holiday yet and again so what we need to refurbish our lot here. Yes?”

Mayor Barilla – “Mr. Timmons.”

Mr. Timmons – “You said that they; the hilltop group will have to pay for those cans?”

Mr. Mavromatis – “No.”

Mr. Timmons – “Okay I misunderstood.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “No this is a City is during this program; it’s our cans we control them and we have to set them up the best way that we can (inaudible).”

Mr. Timmons – “I just wanted to make sure.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “The other thing that I wanted to bring up and I failed to mention this. They have a different type can that can be made it’s weighted in the bottom. So it takes at least two people to try to take it away. To look at a color that we can put these in our Fourth Street and our Market Street area in that downtown area. We’re waiting to get the cost on that and I’ll let you know and then we’ll go from there. Okay? Does that answer what you needed?”

Mr. Petrella – “Yes sir.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Okay.”

Mayor Barilla – “Mr. Villamagna.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Associated with this ribbon. Is there an award that’s given to law enforcement? For drug activity? Years ago Bill Beatty...”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Okay.”

Mr. Villamagna – “Was given an award and it had something to do; I can’t remember. I just thought maybe (all inaudible).”

Mr. Mavromatis – “Offhand specifically for red ribbon; what we gave the Drug Enforcement Administration does give awards out based on geographic areas and the special agent in charge recommended them.”

Mr. Villamagna – “I remember but I can’t remember.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “I gave; I think I remembered Bill Beatty getting that award.”

Mr. Villamagna – “It was something to do with (inaudible) if I remember correctly.”

Mr. Mavromatis – “I’ll follow up on that. Thank you.”

Mr. Mastros – “Just briefly Mr. Mayor. Speaking of garbage can; maybe not next week because I know that the Finance Committee might be a little bit long. Can we have and I’ll remind everybody next week; I just want to put this on your radar. I’d like to have a half hour of Utility Committee meeting to finalize the garbage ordinance all the revisions. I can have Mr. Battistel here. I just want to get this done. Get it off (inaudible). But I’ll remind everybody next week so maybe we can have it the week after. Thank you.”

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS

Mayor Barilla – “Moving onto miscellaneous reports.”

Mr. Dressel – “Do you want me to bring that up now?”

Mayor Barilla – “Yes. Mr. Dressel.”

Mr. Dressel – “Okay. I was asked to bring up the issue for Light up Night; I’m still going to call it Light up Night if we can or not. (All inaudible). So if we want to just cancel Council for that evening; we have (inaudible) meetings in this year to take care of our 52 meeting issue but do you just want to cancel Council that night opposed to moving it to a Monday?”

Mrs. Hahn – “I think that would be great.”

Mr. DiLoreto – “I agree.”

Mrs. Hahn – “As long as that’s not making the budget you know (inaudible). Do we plan around it?”

Mr. Dressel – “Well we weren’t having a budget meeting that day anyway but if we did the budget meeting then we wouldn’t be able to have Light Up Night.”

Mr. Paul – “Make a motion.”

Mr. Dressel – “Okay so I make a motion that we cancel the meeting for November 20th of City Council.”

Mr. Paul – “And move it to another day?”

Mr. Dressel – “Yeah. Well let’s not have it at all.”

Mr. Paul – “Okay.”

Mr. Dressel – “(Inaudible) yeah skip the meeting.”

Mr. Paul – “Okay.”

Mr. Dressel made the motion. Second by Mrs. Hahn. Roll Call. All ayes. So move motion carried declared Mayor Barilla.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mayor Barilla – “We’ll now move onto Public Forum this evening and signing in is Sarah DiCarlantonio. Please come forward and state your name and address.”

Sarah DiCarlantonio – “Can I stand here since I’m close?”

Mayor Barilla – “Okay.”

Sarah DiCarlantonio – “Good because I have a broken toe. Okay Sarah DiCarlantonio 2519 Whitehaven Blvd. I realize that there are a lot of other pressing issues that are going on but this bothers and it has bothered me. I actually was scheduled to come down a few other times but unfortunately I had to work. It really aggravates me that I have to call and tell the Clerk of Council that I want to come to the Council meeting and I want to speak. Not only do I have to tell her this but I have to tell; has to tell her why I want to speak and so for whatever reason I don’t know whose decision this was but like I mean I’ve lived in this City my entire life. I think a lot of people don’t come to Council meetings anymore for this reason now I already you know with the importance of this

meeting and the water situation and I would like to commend City Council on their unity on this. It aggravates me that the water bills have to go up. I understand that they do but I do and I feel that Mrs. Hahn and Mr. Villamagna along with the others have done an amazing job. But I have more questions so now I have to call you know to see if I can get on the schedule for next week to be able to ask my question and maybe there's other people that are here tonight that feel the same way. I do like this is not a dictatorship. The man running our Country is a dictator and I just don't; I just don't understand like where yawl came up with this or how; 9 out of 10 people you know come here because they are interested in what is going on in our City. They're not here to cause a problem. Have there been issues? Absolutely but it's; if you have to wait an extra week to get your answer that's fine because that's one of the things that I've been told well that way you'll get your answer that night. It's okay you know most people are going to say maybe yawl can give us an answer on the night that we're asking the question. I mean I really think that that's something that you know yawl need to think about as a group because it really deters people from coming here because I know a lot of people that don't come anymore for that reason. So I really appreciate yawl giving me the chance to come down and at least you know hear my grief."

Mayor Barilla – "Thank you."

Sarah DiCarlantonio – "But thank you."

Mayor Barilla – "Thank you Sarah. We'll now move onto; signing up this evening is Mr. Ed Palombizio. So if you please step forward state your name and address."

Ed Palombizio – "My name is Ed Palombizio. I live at 113 South Bend Blvd. I'm going to pass around what I'm going to say if I don't get a chance to finish it or if you want to for the minutes. Regarding the proposed water increase. Thank you for choosing the water/utility increase in the lesser amount. The compromise is aggressive but not so aggressive as to adversely affect the viability of the City. This is the best option for the City in the short term because it lessens the immediate hardship on residents. The compromise is also the best option in the long term because it reduces the number of residents and businesses that would be forced to leave the City because of the more severe adverse effect of the higher rate. This compromise allows the City to retain more of its current customer base and to minimize the monthly amount of any future rate increases. The compromise will not adversely affect the City's overall ability to provide safe water and adequate sewer service or to address other identified environmental concerns. It is important to note that under the compromise the same number of water and sewer repairs and projects will be completed but it make take a year or two longer. The delay can be reduced or eliminated if the City applies for and receives additional funding from grants, loans, and other sources. At the recent utility committee meeting members of Council acknowledged it would be appropriate to look "outside the box" in order to obtain additional funding to reduce potential delays. Here are 3 "outside the box" suggestions. If successful two would raise additional funds at no cost to the City and the third would assist the City and this City Council to gain credibility with the State EPA and overcome the bad reputation the City suffers due to previous non-responsive City Administrations. One suggestion is to follow an example used by the Mayor of Pittsburgh in the 50s and 60s and again in the 90s. Create a public/private partnership to address city problems. Pittsburgh was filthy. Residents lived in congested, unsafe, and unhealthy conditions. Elderly and children were literally dying from breathing the air. The Mayor convened a meeting of representatives from a number of the big businesses and stakeholders in the city and asked them to join with the city to address identified problems. This was one of the first urban renewal programs in the country. It was before the Federal Government had the CDBG program. This effort created a new identity for the city. The same strategy was used 35 years later to convert Pittsburgh from a dying 20th century steelmaking town to a 21st century technological, medical, and robotic center. In order to address the immediate funding need for water and sewer repair and projects, Steubenville City Council could establish a voluntary committee consisting of a representatives from Franciscan University, Trinity Health Systems, local businesses with assets in the City, local families with roots and substantial land holdings, or businesses in the City and entrepreneurs wanting to do business in the City. The committee would work directly with City Council and could consist of 5 to 7 members each representing one or more important stakeholders in the City. The immediate primary purpose would be to identify potential grants and other funding sources available to assist the City to address the water problem. The University and the hospital probably already have staff on board who identify grant and funding sources for their respective organizations and with minimal effort. They might be able to assist the City immediately. The University, hospital, and larger businesses might be more motivated to participate if they knew that another option to address the financial shortfall would be a 25-35% surcharge on users of large amounts of water. Ideally the proposed committee would agree to fund someone or a local nonprofit 501C3 neighborhood development corporation for a couple of years to work with City Council and to identify, apply for, and receive funding from new sources. No one is asking the stakeholders to actually fund the required repair work. The committee is being asked to help set up a system that will identify previously unknown funding sources and when appropriate assist the City with the application process. Initially this committee can be limited to the water and sewer problem and if successful can be expanded to include other City needs such as new trash trucks, fire department equipment, and police equipment. The second idea if the City is going to increase its investment in water assets and we touched on this earlier I think; the City should consider opportunities to expand uses of the asset in order to raise funds in future years from these same assets. A private/public partnership to identify and evaluate the feasibility of additional uses of the marina district and the entire shoreline. Council can create a volunteer work group or committee consisting of shore businesses, local boat owners, avid fishermen, cities, and businesses wishing to expand recreational activities along the shore. The City can even initiate a regional effort by contacting neighboring communities wishing to expand recreational activities along their shore. Also expand to include residents from other communities in Jefferson County. If the committee can identify new activities or projects and find ways to fund the activities from non-city funds, the City might be able to raise funds from use fees, development opportunities, construction projects, long term leases

even naming rights to the marina. Establish the Jefferson County Ohio Navy and sell t-shirts. I mean there's many things that you can do "outside the box" with this. On the third the item has to do with; to my understanding I may be wrong but yawl have to meet with EPA again to approve a schedule for the (inaudible) and if that is true after 20 years of ignoring Ohio EPA the City has a major credibility problem and it must get its act together before it meets with EPA. There is no room for mistakes or misunderstandings because there will be no second chance. There is a distrust by the EPA of the City's motive. The decision maker at the EPA and staff at EPA will want to meet directly with the decision maker from the City. EPA staff will want to look into the eye of the City's decision maker to determine that they are trustworthy. City Council is the decision maker especially since City Council overruled the recommendation by City officials and determined the compromise lower rate increase is the best interest of the City. City Council reps as decision maker should lead initial negotiations. City Council spokesman must be prepared to justify the reduced water rates in the compromise and present a revised schedule that is achievable and consistent with the reduced rates. Further the recent public hearings demonstrate that as of last week there continues to be a lack of acceptance and a lack of confidence by some as to the final decision by Council. When negotiating with the EPA the City must present a united front if it is to convince the EPA that the City can and will make every effort to achieve all required work in accordance with the City's requested schedule. The City rep must convince the EPA that the entire City will take all actions to make all repairs as soon as possible within the identified resources available. The City rep should also indicate the City is continuing to make efforts to search for and identify additional resources to assist with this matter. The City must designate a speaker with a final work for the City. The EPA knows that City Council made the decision to compromise water rate increase contrary to the advice of the City officials and though it may go unsaid it will remain a concern throughout the meeting and the negotiation process. Thank you very much."

Mayor Barilla – "Thank you. Yes Mr. Villamagna."

Mr. Villamagna – "I'd like to say something to Mr. Palombizio because I appreciate your effort because I've had several conversations with you on the phone back and forth and I appreciate you taking the time to come up with some ideas (all inaudible). We did disagree on a couple things but as long (all inaudible) agree on some. I appreciate the conversations between me and you."

Ed Palombizio – "Okay thank you."

Mayor Barilla – "Thank you."

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

ATTEST: _____
CLERK OF COUNCIL

APPROVED: _____
MAYOR