

City of Seven Hills

Record of Minutes of

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD JANUARY 28, 2013

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order by Council President Michael Barth, at 8:00 p.m., with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present and accounted for were Mayor Dell' Aquila, Finance Director Mr. Johnson, Law Director Pignatiello, Councilman-at-Large Trafis, Councilman-at-Large Snitzky, Councilman-at-Large Bentkowski, Ward 1 Councilman Barth, Ward 2 Councilman Tripi, Ward 3 Councilwoman Lecznar, Ward 4 Councilman Draganic, City Engineer Papke, and Service Director Lovece.

READING AND DISPOSAL OF JOURNAL

MOTION by Mrs. Lecznar, seconded by Mr. Tripi, to accept the Minutes of the Regular and Council meeting of January 14, 2013 as printed.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION by Mr. Tripi, seconded by Mrs. Lecznar, if there is no division of the question, to accept the Consent Agenda of Monday, January 28, 2013 as printed.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTIONS OF COMMENDATIONS

There were no Resolutions of Commendations

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Planning, Zoning, and Economic Development

Chairman of the Planning, Zoning, and Building Codes Committee Mr. Trafis stated the Committee met on January 22, 2013 and the minutes are on file with the Council Clerk.

Public Works

Chairman of Public Works, Councilman Bentkowski stated that the committee's next scheduled meeting is on February 4, 2013.

Community Services

Community Services Chairman Snitzky stated that their meeting was on January 7, 2013 and our next meeting is February 4, 2013.

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Police and Fire

Police and Fire Committee Chairman Draganic stated that their next meeting will be February 18, 2013.

Parks and Recreation

Parks and Recreation Committee Chairman Tripi stated that the Committee met on January 22, 2013 and the minutes are on file with the Council Clerk.

Rules, Ordinances and Ethics

Committee Chairwoman Lecznar stated that Committee's next meeting will be February 4, 2013.

Finance, Civil Service, and Personnel

Finance Committee Chairman Barth stated that the committee's last meeting was on January 22, 2013 and those minutes are on file with the Council Clerk. Our next meeting will be on February 4, 2013.

APPOINTMENTS AND CONFIRMATIONS

Mayor Dell'Aquila

This evening, I would like to nominate for appointment to our Charter Review Commission to be formed this month for a report to Council of recommendations to Council no later than June 1, 2013. Council would be making a decision to which, if any or any other, items to modify the Charter that will be placed on the ballot in November. With your permission, I will go through that list:

Tom Littlepage	Eric Moore	Mike Barth
Tim Misconish	Bill Mason	Bill Bishilany
Rosemary Gulick	Jeff Brideum	Ed Foley
John Perdina(alternate)	Joe O'Donnell(alternate)	

MOTION by Mrs. Lecznar, seconded by Mr. Draganic, to accept the Mayor's nomination for appointment/s to the Charter Commission.

Mr. Barth: I would like to say that our Charter is old and antiquated. Appointing a Charter Review Committee is long overdue and I applaud the Mayor for taking another step in the right direction. The Mayor asked me to service because of my experience in Municipal Government and I am on it to serve and I thank you for the confidence you have in me Mr. Mayor. There will be much work to do but in the end Council will have the final say on what is put on the ballot for the people to decide. I hope that my colleagues will study the recommendations of the Committee and do what is right for the City. Having said all that, since I am on the Committee, I will recues myself from this vote.

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**Roll Call: Mr. Barth, recused; Mr. Draganic, yes; Mrs. Lecznar, yes; Mr. Tripi, yes; Mr. Bentkowski, yes; Mr. Snitzky, yes; Mr. Trafis, yes.
6 yeas, 1 recused** **MOTION CARRIED**

MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS TO CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION STANDS APPROVED

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, AND CLAIMS

There were no communications or claims.

COUNCIL OPEN TO THE AUDIENCE ON LEGISLATION ONLY

There were no comments from the audience.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTION

Ordinance No. 126-2012 - - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH SYSTEM 4 OF BRECKSVILLE, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING CUSTODIAL SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS' RECREATION AND FITNESS COMPLEX FROM JANUARY 1, 2013 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2013 AND AUTHORIZING AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$21,000 FOR SAID SERVICE.

MOTION by Mr. Draganic, seconded by Mr. Bentkowski, to suspend the rules under the Charter and read Ordinance No. 126-2012 by title only for its third and final reading.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

Ordinance No. 126-2012 was read by title only for its third and final reading.

MOTION by Mr. Draganic, seconded by Mr. Bentkowski, to pass Ordinance No.126-2012.

Mr. Barth: I would like to say that reducing the Recreation's Center deficit by over a quarter of a million dollars last year is evidence that the Mayor is doing the right things there. We should continue to support his efforts.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

ORDINANCE NO. 126-2012 IS DECLARED PASSED

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Ordinance No. 127-2012 - - AN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$6,907.00 FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) 60" SOUTHBEND MODEL NO. S60DD-3GL S-SERIES RESTAURANT GAS RANGE, ONE (1) CRESCOR MODEL NO. H-339-128C HEATED MOBILE CABINET, ONE(1) STAINLESS STEEL WALL PANEL WITH APPURTENANCES INCLUDING SHIPPING AND INSTALLATION, FOR USE IN THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS CITY HALL KITCHEN; SAID PURCHASE TO BE MADE FROM TRIMARK SS KEMP.

MOTION by Mr. Bentkowski, seconded by Mr. Draganic,, to suspend the rules under the Charter and read Ordinance No. 127-2012 by title only for its third and final reading.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

Ordinance No. 127-2012 was read by title only for its third and final reading.

MOTION by Mr. Bentkowski, seconded by Mr. Draganic, to pass Ordinance No.127-2012.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

ORDINANCE NO. 127-2012 IS DECLARED PASSED

Amended Ordinance No. 3-2013 - - AN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE AN ADDITIONAL SUM OF \$5,500.00 FOR A CHANGE ORDER TO ORDINANCE NO. 96-2011 (PO CT67775) PASSED BY COUNCIL JUNE 27, 2011 WHICH AUTHORIZED AN INITIAL AMOUNT OF \$254,000.00 MADE PAYABLE TO GLAUS, PYLE, SCHOMER, BURNS AND DEHAVEN, INC. (DBA GPD ASSOCIATES) OF AKRON OHIO, FOR THE CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION SERVICES AND RESIDENT INSPECTION SERVICES FOR THE CUY-176-5.0 (PID 86604) BROADVIEW ROAD RESURFACING AND STREETScape PROJECT IN THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

MOTION by Mr. Snitzky, seconded by Mr. Trafis, to suspend the rules under the Charter and read Amended Ordinance No. 3-2013 by title only for its second and final reading.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

Amended Ordinance No. 3-2013 was read by title only for its second and final reading.

MOTION by Mr. Snitzky, seconded by Mr. Trafis, to pass Amended Ordinance No.3-2013 as an emergency.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 3-2013 IS DECLARED PASSED

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Amended Ordinance No. 4-2013 - - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH COX BUSINESS AND APPROPRIATING A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$836.82 PER MONTH FOR SIXTY MONTHS FOR A FIVE YEAR SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH COX BUSINESS FOR TELEPHONE SERVICES USED THROUGHOUT THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS RECREATION COMPLEX, CITY HALL, SERVICE DEPARTMENT AND FIRE STATION IN THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS.

MOTION by Mr. Trafis, seconded by Mr. Snitzky, to suspend the rules under the Charter and read Amended Ordinance No. 4-2013 by title only for its second and final reading.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

Amended Ordinance No. 4-2013 was read by title only for its second and final reading.

MOTION by Mr. Trafis, seconded by Mr. Snitzky, to pass Amended Ordinance No.4-2013 as an emergency.

Mr. Draganic: I would like to point out what a great job our Service Director, Stewart Lovece, has been doing for the City. It seems like at every meeting we attend, every caucus meeting, Stewart has another way to save the City sometimes a few dollars, sometimes quite a few dollars and your hard work and dedication is appreciated.

Mr. Lovece: thank you.

Mr. Barth: well said Councilman Draganic.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 4-2013 IS DECLARED PASSED

Ordinance No. 5-2013 - - AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE, ADOPT AND ENACT THE DECEMBER 2012 REPLACEMENT PAGES TO THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO; TO REPEAL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT THEREWITH; TO PUBLISH THE ENACTMENT OF NEW MATTER; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

MOTION by Mrs. Lecznar, seconded by Mr. Tripi, to suspend the rules under the Charter and read Ordinance No. 5-2013 by title only for its first and final reading.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

Ordinance No. 5-2013 was read by title only for its first and final reading.

MOTION by Mrs. Lecznar, seconded by Mr. Tripi, to pass Ordinance No. 5-2013 as an emergency.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

ORDINANCE NO. 5-2013 IS DECLARED PASSED

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Ordinance No. 6-2013 - - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE CUYAHOGA REGIONAL INFORMATION SYSTEM BOARD OF ADVISORS TO ALLOW THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS MAYOR'S COURT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE LEADS COMPUTER INTERFACE PROGRAM WITH THE OHIO LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTOMATED DATA SYSTEM; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

MOTION by Mr. Tripi, seconded by Mrs. Lecznar, to suspend the rules under the Charter and read Ordinance No. 6-2013 by title only for its first and final reading.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

Ordinance No. 6-2013 was read by title only for its second and final reading.

MOTION by Mr. Tripi, seconded by Mrs. Lecznar, to pass Ordinance No. 6-2013 as an emergency.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

ORDINANCE NO. 6-2013 IS DECLARED PASSED

Ordinance No. 7-2013 - - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE CUYAHOGA REGIONAL INFORMATION SYSTEM BOARD OF ADVISORS TO ALLOW THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE LEADS COMPUTER INTERFACE PROGRAM WITH THE OHIO LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTOMATED DATA SYSTEM; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

MOTION by Mr. Draganic, seconded by Mr. Bentkowski, to suspend the rules under the Charter and read Ordinance No. 7-2013 by title only for its first and final reading.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

Ordinance No. 7-2013 was read by title only for its first and final reading.

MOTION by Mr. Draganic, seconded by Mr. Bentkowski, to pass Ordinance No. 7-2013 as an emergency.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

ORDINANCE NO. 7-2013 IS DECLARED PASSED

Ordinance No. 8-2013 - - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE CUYAHOGA REGIONAL INFORMATION SYSTEM BOARD OF ADVISORS TO ALLOW THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS POLICE DEPARTMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE LEADS COMPUTER INTERFACE PROGRAM WITH THE OHIO LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTOMATED DATA SYSTEM; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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MOTION by Mr. Bentkowski, seconded by Mr. Draganic, to suspend the rules under the Charter and read Ordinance No. 8-2013 by title only for its first and final reading.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

Ordinance No. 8-2013 was read by title only for its first and final reading.

MOTION by Mr. Bentkowski, seconded by Mr. Draganic, to pass Ordinance No. 8-2013 as an emergency.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

ORDINANCE NO. 8-2013 IS DECLARED PASSED

Ordinance No. 9-2013 - - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN ANNUAL PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT WITH CHALLENGER SPORTS CORPORATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING A 2013 INSTRUCTIONAL SOCCER CAMP AT THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS SOCCER FIELDS.

Ordinance No. 9-2013 was read for its First Reading.

Ordinance No. 10-2013 - - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE WESTLAND HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING OF AVON, OHIO FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAINTAINING THE HVAC EQUIPMENT FOR ONE YEAR AT THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS' RECREATION CENTER FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,800.00 FOR SAID SERVICE.

Ordinance No. 10-2013 was read for its First Reading.

Ordinance No. 11-2013 - - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN ANNUAL PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT WITH FIVE-STAR GYMNASTICS LLC FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING CHEER/DANCE/TUMBLE INSTRUCTION CLASSES AT THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS' RECREATION CENTER WITH 30% OF THE REVENUES GENERATED BEING PAID TO THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS.

Ordinance No. 11-2013 was read for its First Reading.

Ordinance No. 12-2013 - - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN ANNUAL PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT WITH THE PART-TIME PROGRAM INSTRUCTOR/S AT THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS' COMMUNITY RECREATION COMPLEX FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING VARIOUS

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CLASSES AT THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS' RECREATION CENTER FOR THE PERIOD COVERING JANUARY 1, 2013 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2013.

Ordinance No. 12-2013 was read for its First Reading.

Amended Resolution No. 34-2012 - - A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE SALVATION ARMY AS THE BENEFICIARY OF MONIES RAISED OVER EXPENDITURES AT THE FALL FESTIVAL AND CHILI COOK-OFF, VFW CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY WHICH INCLUDES THE AUCTIONS AND RAFFLES HELD DURING THIS EVENT, AND THE RED KETTLE CAMPAIGN FOR THE YEAR 2012 EXCLUSIVELY.

MOTION by Mr. Snitzky, seconded by Mr. Trafis, to suspend the rules under the Charter and read Amended Resolution No. 34-2012 by title only for its third and final reading.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

Amended Resolution No. 34-2012 was read by title only for its third and final reading.

MOTION by Mr. Snitzky, seconded by Mr. Trafis, to adopt Amended Resolution No. 34-2012.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

AMENDED RESOLUTION NO. 34-2012 IS DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 36-2012 - - A RESOLUTION URGING THE ADMINISTRATION AND THE PARMA AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO COORDINATE A SPECIAL DISCOUNT PROGRAM FOR LOCAL BUSINESSES FOR VETERANS, RESERVE AND ACTIVE SERVICE MEMBERS.

MOTION by Mr. Trafis, seconded by Mr. Barth, to suspend the rules under the Charter and read Resolution No. 36-2012 by title only for its third and final reading.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution No. 36-2012 was read by title only for its third and final reading.

MOTION by Mr. Trafis, seconded by Mr. Snitzky, to adopt Resolution No. 36-2012.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION NO. 36-2012 IS DECLARED ADOPTED

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COUNCIL OPEN TO THE AUDIENCE

No members from the audience approached the podium.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mrs. Lecznar

A few things. I know that today may very well be Teri's last meeting with us. I really appreciate all that you have done. Anytime that I have asked you for something, Teri, you have been absolutely phenomenal getting back to me with e-mails and everything. It is very important that that has to happen and you were the go-to person. I can't thank you enough for doing the two jobs at once. The other thing, I would like to send my condolences to a good friend of mine who I have known since I was a child. Her brother died who, and this person happens to be Stewart's, our Service Director, wife's brother. She lost her brother very suddenly. I just wanted to send my condolences along to them.

Mr. Tripi

I would also like to say to Teri what a wonderful job you have done and not on a full-time basis either. You have done a phenomenal job. I appreciate it. Mister Mayor, I congratulate you. I get the inkling and I am not trying to steal any thunder, but I think that we are ending in the black this year. So, congratulations are in order and I look forward to the budget. I know that even with that good news, and that is good news, we do have challenges ahead and things to be looking at. So, I look forward to rolling with the season and getting that done. It's a good way to start though.

Mr. Trafis

I have a couple of floor motions tonight. Back on November 7, 2012, John Smetanko of 6446 Bonroi Drive was in front of the Zoning Board of Appeals requesting variances to construct a second garage at the back of his property. To formalize this, we need to vote on this tonight. Therefore, I am going to make the following motion:

MOTION **by Mr. Trafis, seconded by Mrs. Lecznar, to concur with the Zoning Board of Appeals variance denial for John Smetanko of 6446 Bonroi Drive to construct a second unattached garage at the back corner of his property.**

Mr. Trafis: Mr. President, I just want to mention to allow Mr. Smetanko to construct a garage, the motion would have to fail and to concur with the Zoning Board of Appeals Council would have to vote "yes".

Mr. Barth: I would like to say that we had considerable debate on this and I feel that the Ordinance is clear and the Zoning Board of Appeals made the right decision and I am supporting their decision. But, more importantly, I would like to thank them for their service and appreciate all that they do for our City.

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Mr. Snitzky: I worked with both the Planning and Zoning Boards a lot in the last couple of years. They do superior service to the City and any vote for against this variance on account of council has nothing to do at all with the good will that we hold towards those boards and how they act in the city's interest.

Roll Call: Mr. Barth, yes; Mr. Draganic, yes; Mrs. Lecznar, no; Mr. Tripi, yea; Mr. Bentkowski, no; Mr. Snitzky, no; Mr. Trafis, no.

Roll Call: 3 yea, 4 nay

MOTION DEFEATED

Mr. Trafis: Now to allow Mr. Smentanko to construct a garage, Council now has to grant a variance.

MOTION by Mr. Trafis, seconded by Mr. Snitzky, to allow Mr. Smetanko at 6446 Bonroi to construct a second unattached garage at the rear corner of his property.

Roll Call: Mr. Barth, no; Mr. Draganic, no; Mrs. Lecznar, yes; Mr. Tripi, no; Mr. Bentkowski, yes; Mr. Snitzky, yes; Mr. Trafis, yes.

Roll Call: 3 nay, 4 yea

MOTION CARRIED

VARIANCE TO BUILD 2ND GARAGE, 6446 BONROI, IS HEREBY GRANTED

Mr. Trafis: I would like to mention to Mr. Smentanko who is in the audience, you have been coming to our meetings for a couple of months now and you have really done a good job on explaining your case and the professionalism that you showed was exemplary. It was good to get to know you and the best of luck.

Mr. Barth: I would also like to say first and foremost, thank you for the way you conducted yourself during this whole process. There are often times residents come to our meetings and make requests with a chip on their shoulders. You sir, were a gentleman. Very polite and courteous and thorough in making your case. Your case was compelling which made my vote to uphold the vote of the Zoning Board of Appeals to deny the request for a variance difficult.

Mr. Draganic: I would like to echo the sentiments expressed by Council President Barth that I appreciate very much how professional you were in approaching council. How you handled this calmly and respectfully. It is not always the case. If someone doesn't get their way before council, they usually resort to a temper tantrum or vulgar language or something of that nature. I too have had a very difficult time with this issue and my "no" vote against this was hard to put forth but again, due to the procedure and certain things that I have illustrated or practiced in the past, I felt that I had to vote that way. However, I would like to congratulate you on the granting of your variance.

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Mr. Snitzky: Mr. President, John, again, they have already said it but your professionalism shined through and made this case for you. I guess there are two things that, for the wider public to take away from this, is that if you come before the Zoning Board, try to make your case. I think that what they heard and what we heard in Council wasn't as quite as eloquent and I think that, for the wider audience that may be listening here, if you are going to the Zoning board asking for a variance, don't assume that it is a slam dunk. Make your case. Make a compelling case. The other thing to the council here, I think that at some point we are going to have to address some of the ordinances that have to do with what you can put on your property and what you can't put on your property. I think that we are going to have to address the lot sizes of the properties in this city. I think that there is going to have to be some clarification that lot sizes matter and on certain lots you can have certain things and certain lots you can't because of their size. I think that at some point we are going to have to address that. Look into the ordinances that currently exist. Thank you.

Mr. Tripi: I would like to say that I always appreciate when any resident takes the time to come to caucus meetings, council meetings and participates. In spite of the way the vote went, this is the process. It is a wonderful thing and it is more exciting when there is compassion, or passion, when it goes with it. Thank you for participating and hopefully you will come to some meetings just for the fun of it.

Mr. Snitzky

I have nothing at this time.

Mr. Bentkowski

Just two quick things. Councilman Tripi, you hit the nail on the head there. We both kind of have a joy and reservation at the same time regarding the budget. The only reason that we have a balanced budget, congratulations to everybody, it is a multiyear plan, and the Mayor as well for bringing us across the gold. But, the only reason that we have a balanced budget is that we pushed out our debt, we bought out almost half of the Service Dept., and those are one trick shots. So, going forward in the years to come when we face the loss of the inheritance tax, the loss of the local government fund, we are going to have to keep coming up with rabbits out of the hat. A lot of things that we are doing and that the Mayor is doing demonstrates that we are very efficient. We are tightly run and we have been for a long time. So, the answer is new sources of revenue and the Mayor is doing a good job with things like the cell tower proposal, new business relationships, but, again, it is going to get harder and harder. We have seen some good progress in the Rec Center and again, I do want to stress that this has been a process. Yes, this is the year that we saw a dramatic improvement there, but, let us also give credit to prior people over there who brought us Silver Sneakers, many of us who first opened up the Rec Center to non-residents which resulted in hundreds of thousands of dollars, the summer camp program which was started and for guiding the ship during the loss ground during the reconstruction. The Mayor has done a great job and his team in bringing that over the finish line and really making a nice chunk this year with the Rec Center losses, but going forward, it just demonstrates the point that there is not going to be much else for us to cut. We run a tight ship and the key will be in generating new

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revenues. So, again, I share Councilman Tripi's mixed feelings of joy that we balanced last year and concern in how we are going to do it in years to come.

Switching gears, a very good friend of Seven Hills' died tragically. You may have seen this on the news. But, Danielle Fink was the Assignment Editor at Channel 3 and she was a very friendly and positive person and she repeatedly made Channel 3 available to the City over the years dating all the way back to 1995 when I first started. Channel 3 has always been very good in their coverage of Seven Hills. They have done nice stories on the City, nice stories on our residents and Danielle was friend to many of us and she was just this wonderful, sweet, thoughtful person and just last week she died tragically in a one person car accident. Driving late at night on some dark windy roads. So, again, she was a wonderful sweet person and you may have seen some of the tributes paid to her on Channel 3. But, it is truly a tragedy and on behalf of the entire City of Seven Hills I just want to thank Danielle because she was the person responsible for a lot of the good coverage that Seven Hills received. Let's keep her in our prayers.

Mr. Draganic

I have something that I hope will be more positive. My condolences to her family. For mine, I would like to take a little time and talk about a very important occasion for the Draganic family. In a few days, on February 4, 2013, my grandma, Christine Louise Draganic, will celebrate her 100th Birthday. I think that we often marvel at someone who has reached such a milestone when we think of all that they have seen and experienced. In my grandmother's case, she was born the same year that the Ohio Erie Canal was closed for operations. Largely because of a newer and competing form of transportation at that time, the railroad. My grandmother has been a Garfield Hts. Resident since the late 50's but was born and raised in the Raleigh – E78th Street area of Cleveland. She lived through the entire both World Wars and the Great Depression. She was already in her mid 20's when television was a new technology. She would receive deliveries of milk by horse and wagon and ice for the icebox at a time when many homes in her Cleveland neighborhood still had outhouses. It amazes me to think of how much she has witnessed and experienced in her lifetime. Not only is her life rich with this history, but the lives of so many others, including myself, had been enriched by her. Some of my very fondest memories in life are of the time I have spent with her. Her love and the examples she has set for me have helped shape me into the person I am. In every way she is the quintessential grandmother. So, grandma, even though you are not here tonight, it is well passed her bedtime these days, I couldn't pass the opportunity to share a little bit of who you are and what you mean to me. Happy Birthday.

Mr. Barth

David referred to the two year plan and I would like to say that the two year plan that we put in place was a product of the budget hearings back in 2010. It is that time of the year again where the Finance Committee will hold its annual budget hearings on Saturday, February 16, 2013 beginning at 9:00AM. Residents are welcome and I urge everyone to attend.

I would like to congratulate my son who finally started his career today as a Lake County Prosecutor. Congratulations to my son Mike. It was a long haul.

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REPORTS FROM THE DIRECTORS OF DEPARTMENTS AND OTHER OFFICIALS

Finance Director Johnson

No report.

Law Director Pignatiello

No report.

Service Director Lovece

No report.

City Engineer Papke

No report.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR-SAFETY DIRECTOR

Mayor Dell'Aquila

Thank you Mr. President. I first want to thank everyone who spoke regard to the budget 2012 or 2013 for the kind words with regards to the efforts that we have all shared to bring us to the point where we are now. I know that when I began making some of the proposed changes at the Rec Center, some of you looked me a little bit askance and some of you a lot of askance and there were a lot of questions and concerns and trepidations where this might all take us. We discovered at the end of the fiscal year last year that a projected \$450,000 deficit there was actually more like \$75,000 thanks to the efforts that we made together. Effectively since April 2012, I am now hoping that with a full year to continue with our efforts over there and some of the other things that we are proposing to do that we can perhaps even do better in 2013 than \$75,000 subsidy for the Rec Center. But, I also have some additional good news above and beyond that. Due to the efforts that we have been promoting here, the General Fund balance in 2012 will be added to by a significant amount. We first thought it would be somewhat smaller but we just were informed that the General Fund Balance will now see an additional \$400,000 plus a little bit more for 2012 and that does not include an additional \$200,000 we are expecting to receive as reimbursement under the Energy Grants that we worked with our Service Director Stewart Lovece to obtain. So, arguably our General Fund Balance for 2012 will actually be increased by \$600,000 thanks to the efforts that we have been undertaking. Now, that certainly does not mean that we can rest on our laurels for 2013. 2013 still bears significant challenges. Someone pointed out that we are looking at a diminution in local government funds being distributed to the City this year and a steady conclusion to the Ohio Estate Tax Revenues for dates of death 12/31 and previously, filing deadline and payment deadline for the Ohio Estate Tax that might accrue as a result would be a nine month period. So, we will arguably be seeing a steady lessening of that figure through the balance of the year and by the end of the year it will be completely eliminated. So, we certainly have some significant challenges to face. We will be looking at all that in the February budget hearings. But, going forward, the General Fund is

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healthier by an additional \$600,000. This compares to the \$1.3 million dollar loss that we were looking at for the prior two years. I just want to thank everybody who assisted in bringing us to this point. After a short period of feeling good about this, however, we need to keep our eye on the ball and continue in our efforts to turn this ship around. Thank you Mr. President.

Mr. Barth: Thank you Mr. Mayor and on behalf of the Finance Committee and I am sure every member on this dais, congratulations on a successful financial year 2012.

Mr. Barth

I will entertain a motion to adjourn.

MOTION by Mrs. Lecznar, seconded by Mr. Tripi, to adjourn tonight's meeting.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

The January 28, 2013 Council Meeting was adjourned at 8:45PM

Michael C. Barth, President of Council

Attest: _____
Teresa Matson, Acting Clerk of Council

Date: _____