

City of Seven Hills

Record of Minutes of

COUNCIL MEETING HELD November 24, 2014

This Regular Council Meeting was called to order by Council President Michael C. Barth at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present and accounted for were Mayor Dell'Aquila, Director of Law Pignatiello, Director of Finance Johnson, Councilman-at-Large Barth, Councilwoman-at-Large Lecznar, Councilman-at-Large Trafis, Ward 1 Councilman Bryda, Ward 2 Councilman Fraundorf, Ward 3 Councilman Snitzky, and Ward 4 Councilwoman Ernst. Absentee was Building Commissioner Moro.

MOTION TO AMEND AGENDA

MOTION by Mrs. Lecznar, seconded by Mr. Fraundorf, to waive the twenty-four hour delivery requirement for "**Ordinance No. 169-2014** – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, WITH THREE-Z-INC., OF VALLEY VIEW, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF LEAF COLLECTION SERVICE AND DISPOSAL THROUGHOUT THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, AND APPROPRIATING THE SUM NOT TO EXCEED TWELVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$12,000.00) FOR SAID SERVICE; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.", and to amend the Agenda by entering Ordinance No. 169-2014 onto the Agenda as **Item No. 9-dd**, if there is no division of the question.

Mayor Dell'Aquila gave the following explanation:

"Very briefly, as everybody knows, we were delayed due to the snowstorm by almost a couple of weeks in going through the City to complete the leaf pick-up program for this year. With the thaw I've instructed the Service Department that I would like them out six days a week as weather permits and up to twelve hours a day to finish the leaf pick-up. The storm hit before they had actually made even the first pass through the City. Today, while they were out, one of the vehicles actually broke down, so we were down to one vehicle. I want to take every possible advantage of the thaw as it may present itself in the next, hopefully, couple of weeks. So we got some bids. We found a firm that is willing to provide to us up to ten days of service to assist our City crews in picking up leaves, and that is Three-Z-Inc., Ordinance No. 169-2014 which is about to be added to the agenda. The idea then being that we would have three crews – two of our own and one private firm – to go through the City and finish the leaf pick-up. There are sufficient funds with the trash levy money to pay for this, so it will not be impacting our General Fund, but we absolutely need to take every advantage we can of the improvement in the weather to get the leaves picked up, and we intend to do that."

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Council President Barth thanked Mayor Dell'Aquila for the explanation. Mr. Barth added that the Clerk of Council had copies of Ordinance No. 169-2014 if anyone was interested in obtaining one.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

READING AND DISPOSAL OF JOURNAL

MOTION by Mr. Fraundorf, seconded by Mrs. Lecznar, to accept the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held November 10, 2014, as printed.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION by Mrs. Lecznar, seconded by Mr. Fraundorf, to accept the Consent Agenda of November 24, 2014, as printed, if there is no division of the question.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTIONS OF COMMENDATION

There were no Resolutions of Commendation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Planning, Zoning, and Economic Development

Planning, Zoning, and Economic Development Committee Chairman Trafis stated that the Committee last met on Monday evening, November 17, 2014, and the minutes from that meeting are on file with the Clerk of Council. Mr. Trafis said that the Committee will hold its next regular meeting on Monday evening, December 15, 2014.

Public Works

Public Works Committee Chairman Bryda stated that the Committee last met on Monday evening, November 3, 2014, and the minutes from that meeting are on file with the Clerk of Council. Mr. Bryda said that the Committee will hold its next regular meeting on Monday evening, December 1, 2014.

Community Services

Community Services Committee Chairman Fraundorf stated that the Committee last met on Monday evening, November 3, 2014, and the minutes from that meeting are on file with the Clerk of Council. Mr. Fraundorf stated that the Committee will hold its next regular meeting on Monday evening, December 1, 2014.

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Police and Fire

Police and Fire Committee Chairman Snitzky stated that the Committee last met on Monday evening, November 17, 2014, and the minutes from that meeting are on file with the Clerk of Council. Mr. Snitzky stated that the Committee will hold its next regular meeting on Monday evening, December 15, 2014.

Parks and Recreation

Parks and Recreation Committee Chairperson Lecznar stated that the Committee last met on Monday evening, November 17, 2014, and the minutes from that meeting are on file with the Clerk of Council.

Rules, Ordinances, and Ethics

Rules, Ordinances, and Ethics Committee Chairperson Ernst stated that the Committee last met in special session on Monday evening, November 17, 2014, and the minutes from that meeting are on file with the Clerk of Council. Mrs. Ernst stated that the Committee will hold its next regular meeting on Monday evening, December 1, 2014.

Finance, Civil Service, and Personnel

Finance, Civil Service, and Personnel Committee Chairman Barth stated that the Committee last met on Monday evening, November 17, 2014, and the minutes from that meeting are forthcoming. Mr. Barth stated that the Finance Committee will hold its next regular meeting on Monday evening, December 1, 2014.

APPOINTMENTS AND CONFIRMATIONS

Council President Barth recognized Mayor Dell'Aquila.

Mayor Dell'Aquila made the following comments:

“We have been actively seeking a replacement for our Service Director who had to retire due to some limitations that he faces with PERS. We have introduced an individual to Council who we hope Council will approve in order that Council can do its due diligence before taking its vote. I would ask that Council schedule a voting meeting for next Monday as part of their Caucus process. I know this is out of the usual process of doing things; however I am anxious to have the replacement appointed as soon as possible. So I would ask Council's indulgence in scheduling a voting meeting during the regular Caucus meeting next Monday for that specific purpose.

Council President Barth replied, “Thank you, Mayor. The Council will take that request under consideration.”

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COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, AND CLAIMS

There were no communications, petitions, or claims.

COUNCIL OPEN TO THE AUDIENCE ON LEGISLATION ONLY

There were no questions or comments from the audience.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Ordinance No. 142-2014 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH COMMERCIAL INTERIOR RESOURCES OF CLEVELAND, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PURCHASING ALL MATERIAL AND LABOR NECESSARY FOR THE INSTALLATION OF CARPETING IN THE LOCKER ROOMS, GATHERING ROOMS, AND FRONT STEPS AT THE COMMUNITY RECREATION COMPLEX, WITH APPURTENANCES, PER PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$13,452.00.

MOTION by Mrs. Ernst, seconded by Mr. Bryda, to read Ordinance No. 142-2014 by title only for its third and final reading.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

Ordinance No. 142-2014 was read by full title only for its third and final reading.

MOTION by Mrs. Ernst, seconded by Mr. Bryda, to pass Ordinance No. 142-2014.

Mr. Fraundorf stated:

“I just want to make a statement. I will be voting ‘no’ on this Ordinance for the following reasons:

1. There was a breach of Charter requirement. I feel to vote ‘yes’ legitimizes any Director to spend City money without approval.
2. I question whether there was any consequence to this action. The lack of consequence simply enables unprofessional behavior and it sets a negative precedent.
3. The fiscal scenario of the City changed dramatically after the failure of Issue 86.
4. I’m not comfortable with the entire time line of events and the explanations that were provided.

Thank you.”

Mr. Trafis stated:

“As we are aware, in a prior Committee Meeting, we agreed to have the Recreation Director come to a separate meeting to discuss with Council the need for new carpet.”

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Mr. Trafis (continued):

“Councilman Fraundorf addresses concerns that new carpet may not have been needed on the stairs, and possibly not needed in other rooms as well, which could have been a significant savings. Prior to the meeting the Director was supposed to attend, the carpet was already installed without Council approving the expenditure. All we heard were excuses from the Administration on why this happened, and to the best of my knowledge the Director who allowed this to happen has not been reprimanded and this sends an absolutely terrible message. It is my opinion that some of the carpet did not need to be replaced and we could have saved a lot of money.”

Council President Barth stated:

“Okay, I’ll give my version here. There has been some controversy since its first reading on October 27th, so it is important to understand what has happened since then. The purchasing of the carpeting passed Committee and first reading unchallenged. It was at our November 3rd Caucus Meeting and prior to the second reading that Councilman Fraundorf questioned the need to replace the carpeting on the steps at the Recreation Center. Because there was not a Parks Committee Meeting scheduled that evening, Director Burger was not available to address Councilman Fraundorf’s concerns, but it was agreed that she could answer the Councilman’s questions at the next committee meeting. On November 4th I received a call from the Mayor that there was a misunderstanding at the Recreation Center and that the carpet installation had begun. The Mayor went on to tell me that the carpet company was called in to repair a tear in the men’s locker room but misunderstood the directive and began the recarpeting project. Director Burger was not there when they began, but when she arrived she made the decision to allow them to continue because the old carpeting was already torn out. The Mayor also told me that Councilman Trafis and Councilman Fraundorf were at the Recreation Center investigating. Because he is a member of the Finance Committee, I immediately called Councilman Fraundorf both on his mobile and at home to ask him what happened, but we did not make contact. Since then the carpet company confirmed her story in writing. Because the legislation was not yet approved, Director Burger should have called the Finance Committee Chairman to seek approval to have them finish. She has admitted that mistake. So, in summary, there was an apparent miscommunication between Director Burger and the carpet company, but because work had already begun and the legislation had not yet passed, the Director erred by not reporting what happened to the Chairman of Finance. The Director works for the Mayor, so it is his responsibility to deal with that mistake. It is up to Council to approve or disapprove payment for work already done. I believe the Director because she had nothing to gain by allowing them to proceed, and she has admitted her mistake, so I will be voting ‘yes’.”

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Mr. Snitzky stated:

“The Recreation Director is a hard-working public servant dedicated to this community. The Recreation Center has eliminated an approximately \$0.5 million deficit in the last couple of years. This is a remarkable feat which has been accomplished with what I believe is only two full-time employees. The carpeting question on this legislation was going to be replaced anyway and the miscommunication that led to its premature installation is the price that occasionally happens when you run an organization with minimal staffing levels. I don't think there was any ill intent and I'll be voting for this legislation.”

Roll Call: Barth, yea; Bryda, yea; Ernst, yea; Fraundorf, nay;
Lecznar, yea; Snitzky, yea; Trafis, nay.

5 yea, 2 nay

MOTION CARRIED

ORDINANCE NO. 142-2014 IS DECLARED PASSED.

Ordinance No. 143-2014 – AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE, ADOPT, AND ENACT THE OCTOBER, 2014 REPLACEMENT PAGES TO THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO; TO REPEAL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT THEREWITH; AND TO PUBLISH THE ENACTMENT OF NEW MATTER.

MOTION by Mr. Bryda, seconded by Mrs. Ernst, to read Ordinance No. 143-2014 by title only for its third and final reading.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

Ordinance No. 143-2014 was read by full title only for its third and final reading.

MOTION by Mr. Bryda, seconded by Mrs. Ernst, to pass Ordinance No. 143-2014.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

ORDINANCE NO. 143-2014 IS DECLARED PASSED.

Ordinance No. 144-2014 – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 109.03, PROHIBITED USE OF CITY LETTERHEAD AND/OR OFFICIAL CITY SEAL, AS CONTAINED IN CHAPTER 109, CITY PROPERTY, OF TITLE ONE, GENERAL PROVISIONS, OF PART ONE, ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF RESTRICTING THE USE OF CITY LETTERHEAD AND THE CITY'S OFFICIAL SEAL.

MOTION by Mr. Snitzky, seconded by Mr. Trafis, to read Ordinance No. 144-2014 by title only for its third and final reading.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

Ordinance No. 144-2014 was read by full title only for its third and final reading.

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MOTION by Mr. Snitzky, seconded by Mr. Trafis, to pass Ordinance No. 144-2014.

Mr. Trafis stated:

“This particular ordinance amending a current ordinance is actually a direct result of the John Glenn group that was campaigning against Issue 87. As many people may recall another group was using the City seal on literature promoting their issue, and we decided real quickly to tighten up that legislation which will not allow that in the future. So this is a direct result of your group – for everybody that is here. Thank you.”

Council President Barth stated:

“Thank you, Councilman, you took the words right out of my mouth. And I will just go on to say that we on Council listen and respond to our constituents’ comments and complaints. And I would like to thank Councilwoman Ernst for her work on this.”

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

ORDINANCE NO. 144-2014 IS DECLARED PASSED.

Ordinance No. 146-2014 – AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE CONSORTIUM BID OF GREAT LAKES PETROLEUM OF CLEVELAND, OHIO, TO BE THE BEST CONSORTIUM BID THEREFORE; AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF SAID ULTRA LOW SULFUR DIESEL SUPREME FUEL FOR THE PERIOD COVERING DECEMBER 9, 2014 THROUGH DECEMBER 8, 2015 TO BE USED FOR THE SERVICE DEPARTMENT VEHICLES, FIRE DEPARTMENT VEHICLES, AND THE CITY HALL GENERATOR; AND AUTHORIZING AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$65,000.00 FOR SAID PURCHASE.

Ordinance No. 146-2014 was read by full title only for its second reading.

MOTION by Mrs. Lecznar, seconded by Mr. Fraundorf, to amend Ordinance No. 147-2014 by adding the words ‘**and declaring an emergency**’ to the title, and by adding the emergency clause to Section 4.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

Amended Ordinance No. 147-2014 – AN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$21,563.36 FOR THE PURCHASE OF FIVE (5) MULTIFUNCTIONAL PRINTING DEVICES (COPIERS), WITH APPURTENANCES, FOR USE IN VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, SAID PURCHASE TO BE MADE FROM RICOH USA, INC., OF RICHFIELD, OHIO; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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MOTION by Mrs. Lecznar, seconded by Mr. Fraundorf, to read Amended Ordinance No. 147-2014 by title only for its second and final reading.

Mrs. Lecznar stated:

“Council was asked by the Finance Director during Caucus to make this ordinance an emergency measure because we have a couple of departments that are without printing devices right now. We need to get these copiers ordered and installed.”

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

Amended Ordinance No. 147-2014 was read by full title only for its second and final reading.

MOTION by Mrs. Lecznar, seconded by Mr. Fraundorf, to pass Amended Ordinance No. 147-2014 as an emergency measure.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 147-2014 IS DECLARED PASSED.

Ordinance No. 148-2014 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT COMMENCING DECEMBER 1, 2014 AND ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 2015, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$516,011.64, WITH MEDICAL MUTUAL INSURANCE OF OHIO FOR THE FURNISHING OF HEALTH, VISION, AND PRESCRIPTION DRUG INSURANCE BENEFITS FOR QUALIFIED FULL-TIME CITY EMPLOYEES; AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO SIGN, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT AND GIVE FORCE AND EFFECT TO SAID MEDICAL COVERAGES; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

MOTION by Mr. Trafis, seconded by Mr. Snitzky, to read Ordinance No. 148-2014 by title only for its first and final reading.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

Ordinance No. 148-2014 was read by full title only for its first and final reading.

MOTION by Mr. Trafis, seconded by Mr. Snitzky, to pass Ordinance No. 148-2014 as an emergency measure.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

ORDINANCE NO. 148-2014 IS DECLARED PASSED.

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Ordinance No. 149-2014 – AN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$56,000.00 FOR THE PURCHASE OF TWO (2) 2015 CHEVROLET CAPRICE SPECIAL 4-DOOR SEDAN POLICE VEHICLES (MODEL #1 EW19), WITH APPURTENANCES, FOR USE IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, SAID PURCHASE TO BE MADE FROM BYERS CHEVROLET THROUGH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES OFFICE OF STATE PURCHASING CONTRACT, INDEX GDC050, CONTRACT #RS901214; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

MOTION by Mrs. Lecznar, seconded by Mr. Fraundorf, to read Ordinance No. 149-2014 by title only for its first and final reading.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

Ordinance No. 149-2014 was read by full title only for its first and final reading.

MOTION by Mrs. Lecznar, seconded by Mr. Fraundorf, to pass Ordinance No. 149-2014 as an emergency measure.

Mr. Trafis stated:

“Since the Town Hall Meeting where the Mayor presented an urgent need to acquire additional police cars in addition to the two new cars that we just received, I have really been pushing for this issue. At the past two Council Meetings I made various floor motions to appropriate money for new and used cars for the Police Department. It is no surprise to me at that time that those motions failed two to five, but there was a reason for doing that. Those motions ultimately, today, are going to be successful because it forced the issue and forced us to have a dialogue on this most urgent need. So I want to thank my colleagues and the Mayor for placing this item on the agenda under an emergency, and contrary to what some may believe, this is a very good use for that emergency clause, and I’m grateful that we’re acting so very quickly on this particular issue. Thank you.”

Mr. Snitzky stated:

“Last Monday I convened our regularly scheduled Police and Fire Safety Committee Meeting. I would like to personally thank the Chief for appearing at the meeting and for calmly and clearly, in a non-politicized venue, categorizing his long-term and short-term financial requirements for the proper operation of the Police Department. Subsequent to those discussions, Ordinance No. 149-2014 for the purchase of two brand-new Chevrolet Caprice patrol cars will be passed tonight. These vehicles will be paid for out of the 2015 budget. It is amazing how smooth and efficient the appropriations process can be when pandering and politicizing are left at the door, and intelligent and thorough discussion of the City’s needs and requirements takes place. Thank you very much.”

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Council President Barth stated:

“I’d like to add that this Ordinance is a great example of how our government works when needing to make a significant expenditure. It works because there is a purchasing process in place as defined by our ordinances. In March of 2014 at our Police budget hearings we were told that a total of four new police cars would be needed. After some discussion it was agreed to by all on Council that two would be purchased in 2014. Those two cars have already been purchased and delivered, and two more were to be purchased in 2015. That was acceptable to the Police and the 2014 budget was unanimously passed. This past summer Council unanimously approved the Capital Improvement Plan and included a five-year schedule for police car purchases. On November 17th Councilman Snitzky convened a Safety Committee Meeting and at that meeting the question of long lead time in purchasing cars was discussed. Council agreed that because of that long lead time the process will begin this evening, but payment for the cars will come from the 2015 budget as planned. The Chief and the Mayor asked if this Ordinance could be passed on an emergency in order to expedite the purchase. Since the funds were coming from the 2015 budget, no one on the Finance Committee objected. So once this Ordinance is approved the cars can be ordered, which will allow the City to take delivery at least a few months earlier than anticipated.”

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

ORDINANCE NO. 149-2014 IS DECLARED PASSED.

Ordinance No. 150-2014 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A FITNESS FACILITY SERVICES AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, WITH AMERICAN SPECIALTY HEALTH FITNESS, INC., IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE “SILVER & FIT” FITNESS PROGRAM OFFERED THROUGH AMERICAN SPECIALTY HEALTH FITNESS, INC.; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

MOTION by Mrs. Ernst, seconded by Mr. Bryda, to read Ordinance No. 150-2014 by title only for its first and final reading.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

Ordinance No. 150-2014 was read by full title only for its first and final reading.

MOTION by Mrs. Ernst, seconded by Mr. Bryda, to pass Ordinance No. 150-2014 as an emergency measure.

Mrs. Ernst stated:

“We are passing this on emergency so that the program can be started. This is similar to our Silver Sneakers program with a different insurance company so it will allow more of our seniors to utilize the Recreation Center.”

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Council President Barth thanked Mrs. Ernst for the explanation.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

ORDINANCE NO. 150-2014 IS DECLARED PASSED.

Ordinance No. 151-2014 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES WITH PUBLIC FINANCE AND ENERGY ADVISORS, LLC, IN CONNECTION WITH THE FINANCING, PROCUREMENT, AND IMPLEMENTATION OF ENERGY CONSERVATION AND CERTAIN OTHER RELATED IMPROVEMENTS TO CITY HALL, THE RECREATION CENTER, THE FIRE STATION, AND THE SERVICE GARAGE, AND THE MEASUREMENT, VERIFICATION, AND INSURING OF ENERGY AND OPERATIONAL SAVINGS RELATED THERETO.

Ordinance No. 151-2014 was read by full title only for its first reading.

Ordinance No. 152-2014 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCIL, CUYAHOGA COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES.

Ordinance No. 152-2014 was read by full title only for its first reading.

Ordinance No. 153-2014 – AN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$4,388.00 FOR A ONE-YEAR SILVER PLAN SERVICE AGREEMENT FOR THE TELRAD 400 PHONE SYSTEM USED BY THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS COMMUNITY COMPLEX (CITY HALL); SAID AGREEMENT TO BE ENTERED INTO WITH RAYTEC SYSTEMS OF STOW, OHIO.

Ordinance No. 153-2014 was read by full title only for its first reading.

Ordinance No. 154-2014 – AN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$696.00 FOR THE ANNUAL MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT FOR THE FIRE STATION NORTEL PHONE SYSTEM USED BY THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS FIRE DEPARTMENT; SAID AGREEMENT TO BE ENTERED INTO WITH RAYTEC SYSTEMS OF STOW, OHIO.

Ordinance No. 154-2014 was read by full title only for its first reading.

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Ordinance No. 155-2014 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, WITH BELENKY, INC., OF AKRON, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PURCHASING A WASHER EXTRACTOR (UNIMAC 40-POUND EXTRACTOR MODEL UCN040HNFX208/220-240/60/1/3), WITH APPURTENANCES, FOR WASHING FIREFIGHTING TURNOUT GEAR, TO BE USED BY THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS FIREFIGHTERS, AND APPROPRIATING THE SUM NOT TO EXCEED SEVEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$7,500.00) FOR SAID PURCHASE.

Ordinance No. 155-2014 was read by full title only for its first reading.

Ordinance No. 156-2014 – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 121.09, RULES OF COUNCIL, RULE 1 MEETINGS, SUBSECTION (a), REGULAR MEETINGS, AS CONTAINED IN SECTION 121.09, THE RULES OF COUNCIL, OF CHAPTER 121, COUNCIL, OF TITLE THREE, LEGISLATIVE, OF PART ONE, ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF REMOVING DUPLICATE VERBIAGE.

Ordinance No. 156-2014 was read by full title only for its first reading.

Ordinance No. 157-2014 – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 121.09, RULES OF COUNCIL, AS CONTAINED IN CHAPTER 121, COUNCIL, OF TITLE THREE, LEGISLATIVE, OF PART ONE, ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING RULE 10 STANDING COMMITTEES, SUBSECTION (a), APPOINTMENT TO STANDING COMMITTEES, TO AUTHORIZE A COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN TO CALL SPECIAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

Ordinance No. 157-2014 was read by full title only for its first reading.

Ordinance No. 158-2014 – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 125.02(a), DIRECTOR OF SENIOR AND COMMUNITY SERVICES, AS CONTAINED IN CHAPTER 125, MAYOR, OF TITLE FIVE, ADMINISTRATIVE, OF PART ONE, ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING THE DIRECTOR OF SENIOR AND COMMUNITY SERVICES POSITION TO AN APPOINTED FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME POSITION THAT WILL BE SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION BY A MAJORITY OF MEMBERS ELECTED TO COUNCIL.

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Ordinance No. 158-2014 was read by full title only for its first reading.

Ordinance No. 159-2014 – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 130.01(a), ESTABLISHMENT, DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES, AND TO AMEND SECTION 130.03, COMPENSATION OF THE DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES, AS CONTAINED IN CHAPTER 130, DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES, OF TITLE FIVE, ADMINISTRATIVE, OF PART ONE, ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING THE POSITION OF DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES TO A FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME POSITION.

Ordinance No. 159-2014 was read by full title only for its first reading.

Ordinance No. 160-2014 – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 151.091, COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES GENERALLY, AS CONTAINED IN CHAPTER 151, EMPLOYEES GENERALLY, OF TITLE FIVE, ADMINISTRATIVE, OF PART ONE, ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADDING PART-TIME COMPENSATION ON A PRO-RATED BASIS FOR THE POSITIONS OF DIRECTOR OF SENIOR AND COMMUNITY SERVICES AND DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES.

Ordinance No. 160-2014 was read by full title only for its first reading.

Ordinance No. 161-2014 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN ANNUAL PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT WITH THE PART-TIME PROGRAM INSTRUCTORS (P. Palmer, A. Toth, S. Laurenzi, T. Verderber, C. Quintana, M. McAdams, and N. Krist), AT THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS COMMUNITY RECREATION COMPLEX FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING VARIOUS CLASSES AT THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS RECREATION CENTER FOR THE PERIOD COVERING JANUARY 1, 2015 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2015.

Ordinance No. 161-2014 was read by full title only for its first reading.

Ordinance No. 162-2014 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE SERVICE AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, WITH HEALTH & FITNESS EQUIPMENT CENTERS OF EASTLAKE, OHIO, FOR PERFORMING MAINTENANCE SUPPORT OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS RECREATION CENTER'S FITNESS AND WEIGHT EQUIPMENT; AND APPROPRIATING THE SUM NOT TO EXCEED ONE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED NINETY-FIVE DOLLARS (\$1,195.00) FOR SAID SERVICE.

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Ordinance No. 162-2014 was read by full title only for its first reading.

Ordinance No. 163-2014 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH WESTLAND HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING OF WESTLAKE, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE ON THE HVAC EQUIPMENT FOR ONE YEAR AT THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS RECREATION CENTER IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,400.00 FOR SAID SERVICE.

Ordinance No. 163-2014 was read by full title only for its first reading.

Ordinance No. 164-2014 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH CONTINENTAL FIRE & SECURITY, INC., OF INDEPENDENCE, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE FOR THE FIRE & SPRINKLER ALARM SYSTEMS AT THE COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER FOR ONE YEAR COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2015 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2015; AND AUTHORIZING AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,700.00 FOR SAID SERVICE.

Ordinance No. 164-2014 was read by full title only for its first reading.

Ordinance No. 165-2014 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH WJS CONSTRUCTION OF OLMSTED TOWNSHIP, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF UPGRADING THE MEN'S AND WOMEN'S LOCKER ROOMS AT THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS RECREATION COMPLEX, WITH APPURTENANCES, AND AUTHORIZING AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$20,718.00 FOR SAID SERVICE.

Ordinance No. 165-2014 was read by full title only for its first reading.

Ordinance No. 166-2014 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH GERALD HAIRSTON, dba A CUT ABOVE THE REST LANDSCAPING & SNOW LLC, OF BROADVIEW HEIGHTS, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING SNOW REMOVAL ON THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS RECREATION COMPLEX GROUNDS FROM NOVEMBER 1, 2014 THROUGH APRIL 1, 2015, AND AUTHORIZING AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$3,751.00 FOR SAID SERVICE.

Ordinance No. 166-2014 was read by full title only for its first reading.

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Ordinance No. 167-2014 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH COVERALL HEALTH-BASED CLEANING SYSTEM FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING CUSTODIAL SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS RECREATION AND FITNESS COMPLEX FROM JANUARY 1, 2015 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2015; AND AUTHORIZING AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$19,104.00 FOR SAID SERVICE.

Ordinance No. 167-2014 was read by full title only for its first reading.

Ordinance No. 168-2014 – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 148.051, COMMUNITY RECREATION COMPLEX MEMBERSHIP FEES, AS CONTAINED IN TITLE FIVE, ADMINISTRATIVE, OF PART ONE, ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF INCREASING RECREATION COMPLEX MEMBERSHIP FEES.

Ordinance No. 168-2014 was read by full title only for its first reading.

Resolution No. 38-2014 – A RESOLUTION APPROVING A LOT SPLIT PURSUANT TO SEVEN HILLS ORDINANCE NO. 911.002 (Permanent Parcel Nos. 552-22-025 and 552-24-115) FRONTING ON OAKWOOD DRIVE; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

MOTION by Mr. Trafis, seconded by Mr. Snitzky, to read Resolution No. 38-2014 by title only for its first and final reading.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution No. 38-2014 was read by full title only for its first and final reading.

MOTION by Mr. Trafis, seconded by Mr. Snitzky, to adopt Resolution No. 38-2014 as an emergency measure.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION NO. 38-2014 IS DECLARED ADOPTED.

Resolution No. 39-2014 – A RESOLUTION APPROVING A LOT SPLIT PURSUANT TO SEVEN HILLS ORDINANCE NO. 911.002 (Permanent Parcel No. 552-32-003) FRONTING ON EAST SPRAGUE ROAD; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

MOTION by Mr. Snitzky, seconded by Mr. Trafis, to read Resolution No. 39-2014 by title only for its first and final reading.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution No. 39-2014 was read by full title only for its first and final reading.

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MOTION by Mr. Snitzky, seconded by Mr. Trafis, to adopt Resolution No. 39-2014 as an emergency measure.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION NO. 39-2014 IS DECLARED ADOPTED.

Resolution No. 40-2014 – A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO ACCEPT THE DONATION OF OFFICE FURNITURE (USED) WHICH INCLUDES, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO, FIFTEEN CHAIRS, TEN DESKS, AND TEN FILE CABINETS, FROM OHIO DESK OF BROOKLYN HEIGHTS, OHIO, TO THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

MOTION by Mr. Trafis, seconded by Mr. Fraundorf, to read Resolution No. 40-2014 by title only for its first and final reading.

Mrs. Ernst stated:

“I would like to give Councilman Trafis and Councilman Fraundorf kudos for finding this and bringing it to Council. I think they did a really nice job.”

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution No. 40-2014 was read by full title only for its first and final reading.

MOTION by Mr. Trafis, seconded by Mr. Fraundorf, to adopt Resolution No. 40-2014 as an emergency measure.

Mr. Snitzky stated:

“As head of the Police and Safety Committee, I’d like to thank Councilman Fraundorf and Councilman Trafis for uncovering this deal for our Police Department. I’ve been working with the Chief and the Officers down there for quite a while now to try to resolve some housing issues, for lack of a better word. This is a good Resolution, and I appreciate the help.”

Mr. Trafis stated:

“For everybody in the audience, this is really an exciting Resolution. Over the past – well, for quite some time – it’s come to our attention that the Police Department needs furniture. A long story short, their furniture basically dates to 1960 – it’s like walking back in time. A lot of it is falling apart, and it is definitely something we needed to do. Last week the Chief came to one of our Caucus Meetings – or Committee Meeting – and I asked for approximately \$30,000.00 to outfit the Police Department with new furniture. In the meantime, I’m sure a number of us up here – myself included – were looking at different options on how we could save some money on furniture. We ran across a company, Ohio Desk -- one of the employees lives in Seven Hills – and they offered to donate, free of charge, a retail value of about \$30,000.00 worth of furniture for our Police Department and any other needs that we have in the City.”

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Mr. Trafis (continued):

“This process happened quickly. Councilman Fraundorf and I went to look at it. It was beautiful furniture. We got in touch with Mayor Dell’Aquila, who acted quickly as well, and sent our Service Department out the following day to transport this furniture. The process worked pretty smoothly. It’s very exciting that we’re getting something for free – that doesn’t happen often. I’m very pleased and proud that this has happened. So thank you everybody who contributed to this.”

Council President Barth stated:

“I, too, would like to thank Councilman Trafis and Councilman Fraundorf for their efforts to locate the used office furniture for our Police Department. But as Chief Durkin pointed out in a recent Safety Committee Meeting, more than just that furniture is needed. The offices that they occupy was once a school building and does not meet the needs of a modern Police Department. Not only is the furniture old and broken, the makeshift station has never been updated and is lacking needed facilities, such as a holding room. The Chief mentioned it would take at least \$500,000.00 in improvements to their facilities to give them what they need. He also talked about outdated equipment that they are forced to work with. I feel strongly that this Council needs to take a look at this, and perhaps bring an architect in to meet with the Police to discuss their needs and to get an estimate on just what it would take to significantly upgrade our Police Department. In the meantime we should have meaningful discussions with our Finance Director to discuss ways to fund this much-needed capital improvement. Our Police Department is deserving and provides for the health and safety of our citizens and it is incumbent on us to provide them with the facilities and tools necessary.”

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION NO. 40-2014 IS DECLARED ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 169-2014 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, WITH THREE-Z-INC., OF VALLEY VIEW, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF LEAF COLLECTION SERVICE AND DISPOSAL THROUGHOUT THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS, OHIO, AND APPROPRIATING THE SUM NOT TO EXCEED TWELVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$12,000.00) FOR SAID SERVICE; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

MOTION by Mrs. Lecznar, seconded by Mr. Fraundorf, to read Ordinance No. 169-2014 by title only for its first and final reading.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

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Ordinance No. 169-2014 was read by full title only for its first and final reading.

MOTION by Mrs. Lecznar, seconded by Mr. Fraundorf, to pass Ordinance No. 169-2014 as an emergency measure.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

ORDINANCE NO. 169-2014 IS DECLARED PASSED.

COUNCIL OPEN TO THE AUDIENCE

Tom Jaros, 224 Crescent Ridge Drive made the following comments:

“A few items. Two weeks ago we heard the Mayor say that he was going to look into the minimum maintenance standards on John Glenn. Do you know where I can find Inspector Vittardi’s letter to Landsong Limited addressing those infractions?”

Mayor Dell’Aquila replied:

“I can tell you that the Building Commissioner, himself, went out to look at the building. He reported back to Council last week.”

Mr. Jaros continued, “Isn’t it normal procedure to get a letter sent out apprising somebody of violations?”

Mayor Dell’Aquila answered, “I think you would have to touch base with the Building Commissioner. He did make a report to Council last week.”

Mr. Jaros said, “Okay. I can get that report from Mr. Moro?”

Mayor Dell’Aquila stated, “Well, it’s part of the minutes of the last Council Meeting.”

Mr. Jaros continued:

“Okay. The second thing – Mr. Snitzky. Jen Burger is a good employee. Jen Burger has been here ten years. She’s familiar with the procedures. She allowed an allocation that wasn’t approved by Council. That’s your definition of a good employee? I think you should look into that. And, Mr. Barth – making a large statement about how you responded to residents’ wishes as far as the misuse of the seal for the City. I’d like to remind you, on September 2nd and October 6th, seventy residents asked you to take 87 off the ballot. So, if you are really into being responsive, you should probably just carry that thing through the whole deal. But, thank you anyhow.”

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Council President Barth responded:

“Mr. Jaros, it takes more than me to take it off the ballot. It takes seven members of Council. It takes more than seven members of Council to take it off the ballot – not just me.”

Mr. Jaros said, “I think this was the discussion, Mike. That’s all I have to say. Thank you. Thank you.”

Council President Barth added, “So address the whole Council next time.”

Council President Barth addressed Mrs. Payer, who was approaching the microphone with physical difficulty, “Sandy, we would have brought the microphone to you. You look like you’re hurting on two ends there!”

Sandy Payer, 416 Mapleview Drive made the following comments:

“No, I’m on drugs, so I’m okay. My problem is that I’m Italian – and I talk with my hands – and now I’m short one hand, so it will be brief.”

Council President Barth replied, “I’m the same way, Sandy! I’m the same way. I know exactly what you’re saying.”

Mrs. Payer continued:

“First of all, it’s been a long time since I graced you with my presence, so I may not know all of the rules as they are today, and of course I’m a lot older now, so I beg you to be nice to me! I have a couple of suggestions because some things have come to my attention that concern me. But I want to start with a real quick little story. I was having my car serviced a few weeks ago, and while I was in there this lady came up to me and she said ‘*Excuse me – I heard you gave your address as Seven Hills, Ohio. I live in Seven Hills. Do you know anything about the senior breakfasts and things like that?*’. And I said, well, as a matter of fact, I do. I said I’m on the Senior Advisory Board, what can I tell you? She said, ‘*Everybody I talk to tells me that Seven Hills has the most dynamic Senior Citizens program of anybody in this area.*’ And I’m looking at her thinking, well, what about Parma? And I mentioned that. She said, ‘*But this program is so personal.*’ And that made me feel so proud. Because so many times I don’t tell people where I live, because I’m really ashamed of some of the things that I hear are going on. This is not new stuff. This stuff has been going on for thirty years. So it’s time we all took a step back, grow up, and get the politics out of our lives, and think about what’s good for Seven Hills, and all of us. I have great respect for every one of you ladies and gentlemen. You do a lot of hard work for very little money. And I know that. But I also know that this is our City. And I think the fact that we have, what, 60-some percent of the City’s population is over 65. Is that pretty close? I know I’m not supposed to ask questions, but.....”

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Mayor Dell'Aquila replied, "Twenty-five percent."

Mrs. Payer continued, "Well, I'm Italian – you have to double everything. Well, 25% is a big....."

Mrs. Ernst stated, "Fifty percent is over 50. We're getting older."

Mrs. Payer continued:

"It is over 50? Okay, well I wasn't that far off. Thank you. No – we're getting better! At any rate, I think that is something that each and every person who has any kind of an aspiration to further their career in the City of Seven Hills ought to embrace the seniors. We are your constant. We are the people that come here. We're here all the time. We come up here and cook breakfast – nobody pays us. We don't have to do that. We just think it's important. We help with bingo. We decorate. We help with the vets luncheon. There are so many good seniors. And it was so heartening for me because I came here last Wednesday for the vet luncheon, and I can't tell you how many people walked up to me and said '*I thought you just had surgery.*' And I said, I did, last Thursday. And they said, '*Well, that wasn't even a week. We've been praying, and we didn't know we could stop praying now.*' But all these people really seemed to care. You don't find that everywhere in this world today. So I think we need to embrace the good things that we have. Let's grow on them. And I'm here to tell you that the Senior Advisory Board – we're pretty self sufficient. We do not take any money from the City as I understand it. But because of our efforts, we have equipped the kitchen with some state-of-the-art cooking equipment. We provide entertainment and recreation for our seniors. Things like a letter in the mail saying '*Do you want this new energy program*' – I don't know what the heck I want anymore. I just want to know that when I go to pay my bill, it's fair. But I know that I could call the City and whoever was in charge would get back to me in a timely manner and say '*I can't advise you on your decision, but I can tell you what would be the best options for you.*' Do you know how important that is to people like us? It is so important. This is a job that is not a forty-hour job. This is a job that when something happens you can call this person after hours, and they'll respond. And that's what we all want, don't we in our City? We want people to care about each other, respond to each other, and say what has the senior program here in Seven Hills meant to me or my colleagues. Now I've tried every way I can to ask these people to stand up, and tell you what they think from their hearts. But I think they're afraid of you. I think they're afraid to tell you how they feel. It's kind of like '*I don't want to put a sign in my yard because somebody in the City might not like that person, and then when I need work done or help, they might ignore me.*' You know that is something that scares a lot of people. So I'm just here to maybe broaden our horizons. Remember that unlike the baseball, I think it is, I think the City funds all of that – and I'm all for that – I'm a grandma. But I do know we pay a lot of money to make sure the fields are in proper shape, and everything we need done is done. What does the City get back financially? Now I'm only talking finance. I know there's a lot of good that comes out of that program. What does the City get back in dollars and cents?"

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Sandy Payer continued:

“Every penny that the Senior Advisory Board earns that is not spent on things like cushy new chairs for our Community Room, or tables that we got at a really good deal, but not as good as free -- free is always better -- should have come to you guys first. But things like that are important. Those are the things that the Advisory Committee, with a group of seniors around us, because we can't do it alone – there's only a handful of us. But we were allowed to turn the balance of those funds over to our City and say ‘*Here City, here's a few bucks for the General Fund.*’ I don't know if it will do a lot, but it will do a little. So I beg of you – step back. This is the Holy Season we're coming into. I hope I haven't offended anybody by saying that. We have great programs. We have a snow removal program. We have lock boxes now, which are awesome. Do all you guys know about the lock boxes? That's a tremendous program. These seniors – they volunteer at all the events. They help wherever they're needed. They're not going to stand up here and tell you what it's meant to them. But I'm here to tell you what their friendship and their relationship has meant to me. So, what's the reason for taking one of the most important people, who is here all the time to answer the questions of 58% of your constituents, and you want them to go to maybe a part-time thing? What part? Do we forget breakfast? What do we give up? What are the plans to go from full-time to part-time? And then consider the fact that we are all here as members of this City. And I know I've taken more than three minutes, but then after three I don't count any more, so.....”

Bob Payer, who was seated in the audience, said “You can have mine!”

Mrs. Payer continued, “Oh gee, thanks! I'm married to him. He has to give me his.”

Council President Barth stated, “We're pretty lenient up here on the three minutes.”

Mrs. Payer continued:

“Well, I appreciate that. I hope that, and I know I'm not permitted to ask any questions, and I certainly don't want to ask any questions, but I ask you to give real consideration to the fact that – take the politics out of every issue that comes before your board. There is so much more that we can depend on with each other if we just love a little. Hug a little. Be nice to each other. Life is so short. And after having one more body part worked on last week, I'm convinced that the Lord ain't done with me yet, so – we have to work together, because there's nothing for us out there if we turn our backs on each other. I appreciate your time, and I appreciate you giving me the opportunity to make this statement. Thank you. Have a happy holiday season!”

Council President Barth commented, “Sandy, well said – very well said.”

Mrs. Payer's comments drew a hearty round of applause from the audience and from everyone present.

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Frank Mekker made the following comments:

“The only thing – I’d like to remind you – is that seniors vote. And if you have aspirations of moving on up, just remember who you’re going to screw with. Their voting records are excellent. Better than young people. So think about that. And I’m a senior, and a veteran. And the City has been great to me. Don’t change that. Don’t ruin it. Thank you.”

Council President Barth thanked Mr. Mekker for his comments.

Mr. Mekker’s comments drew a round of applause from the audience.

Bob Gutzky made the following comments:

“I’m the outgoing President of the Golden Agers. I’m a member of Seven Hills Veterans VFW 7609. I’m an Adjutant of DAV 116 in Parma. I belong to the Viet Nam Veterans, and I belong to other organizations. Gentlemen, when I see this bickering amongst people here I want you to remember one thing. We as veterans answer the call. We went and we did what had to be done. We came back. We wanted to merge into our communities. We came back with a very special thing. Every Memorial Day we go in time back to when people stood beside us. They never age. We age every day and every hour. Understand this. Any organization or any City who forgets its veterans, and forgets its seniors, that organization will not exist for much longer. I want you to carefully consider the fact that we are Americans. And those of us that are veterans, and I say veterans – I’ve been able to succeed and overcome three types of cancer – all from my time in Viet Nam – I stand here today because of the medical help that I get at the VA system. But I want you to remember also that those of us who came back, we do a lot of thinking. We come back here – this is our home. This is where we live. This is where we raise our children. And we have one goal in mind, and that’s to make the City better than it was. Thank you.”

Council President Barth thanked Mr. Gutzky for his comments.

Mr. Gutzky’s comments drew a round of applause from the audience.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Bryda had no miscellaneous comments.

Mr. Trafis had no miscellaneous comments.

Mrs. Ernst had no miscellaneous comments.

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Mr. Snitzky:

I'm sorry everybody, but I have a really nasty cold – sorry for all the coughing and the hacking. I just want to thank the veterans. I didn't get to any of the Veterans Day celebrations this year, I had to work that day. But thank you very much for your words tonight.

Everybody have a wonderful Thanksgiving. Hug your family, and your kids, and your grandparents.

Mr. Fraundorf:

I'd just like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

To dovetail on to what we just heard, enjoy your family, friends, and your neighbors. That's what life is all about.

Mrs. Lecznar:

I, too, want to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Enjoy your time with your families.

And hug a Veteran sometime.

Council President Barth:

I just want to clarify what I said earlier. It was on this dais that I read Diane Schneider's request and put before Council to have Issue 87 removed from the ballot. Not one – not one up here – asked to have it removed.

I'd like to thank our Clerk for all the work she did in preparing tonight's agenda. I think she said during the month of October we had already passed as many pieces of legislation as we did all of last year. So, I'm sure we're on a record pace. And we have another month to go. So thank you for your efforts.

Happy Thanksgiving to everyone out there.

REPORTS FROM THE DIRECTORS OF DEPARTMENTS AND OTHER OFFICIALS

Director of Finance Johnson had no formal report.

Director of Law Pignatiello:

I'd just like to wish everybody a Happy Thanksgiving.

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Building Commissioner Moro was not present.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR-SAFETY DIRECTOR

Mayor Dell'Aquila made the following remarks:

Thank you, Mr. President. I first want to say how eloquent and moving I found the remarks we just heard this evening. We have some really wonderful residents in our City.

With respect to the position that was referenced by some of the last few commentors from the audience, I just wanted to communicate that I'm sure most of you have already met Mr. Anthony Terry. He is the full-time Director of Senior and Community Services which we just hired last week. You should know that he is being paid significantly less than Chris Matthews. Those who have met him I think have already recognized that he is a high energy individual with a substantial commitment to our community. He's been involved in a lot of volunteer efforts. He's been a coach at Padua and St. Columbkille and some of the youth leagues. He's already shown some promise and has done a couple of things that have indicated our trust in him has been well placed. We'll never be able to fully replace Chris Matthews who created a lot of the programs that the City has. But I believe that Mr. Terry is going to be very successful at implementing the existing programs and indeed expanding on those.

I want to talk a little bit about Ordinance No. 142-2014, the carpeting. Some of the audience may be asking what this is all about and why are we passing legislation after something has actually occurred. In fact, this kind of dovetails a little bit with the resolution adopted this evening for the authorization of the furniture. A lot of times in a community things don't necessarily happen in the order that we would prefer. Things come up unexpectedly, and emergencies present themselves. Issues crop up that we haven't necessarily anticipated. And what we do in those circumstances, if we are advancing the good of the City, is we find ways to work within the system and yet bring that beneficial result to the City. So, yes, we've obtained some furniture. The furniture was not yet authorized since we didn't know about it. And, yes, tonight we are passing legislation to make all of that work. In the same vein, the instance that happened with the carpeting at the Recreation Center was definitely a mistake. There was a miscommunication between the Director and the firm that installed the carpet. They sent a letter to the City documenting that. And I know of no single fact that indicates that this was anything other than a mistake and a miscommunication. I spoke with the staff at the Recreation Center. I spoke with the Director and communicated with the owner of the company that installed the carpet. And the facts corroborate without any substantiation by the Recreation Director herself that this was an unanticipated occurrence. And those facts are, a couple of things particularly, there was nothing on the Recreation Center calendar indicating that the carpet installers were going to show up at 6:30 that morning.

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Mayor Dell'Aquila (continued):

So when they did show up at 6:30 a.m., the staff phoned the Director who was still at home. She communicated to them and it was her belief that they were there to repair a tear in the carpet and that would be fine. Yes, that was a mistake. She should have first gotten authorization to do that. She acknowledges that mistake and we will be addressing that now that the facts are all in. Secondly, when she arrived, she found that not only were they not working in the locker room but that they had started removing carpeting from throughout the Recreation Center. Well some of that carpeting had to be removed from the Gathering Room where there were already programs going on. There were some children's programs being conducted in there, and we had some of our regular residents drinking coffee, watching television, and sharing with each other in the Gathering Room. So all of those programs had to be interrupted unexpectedly. Had there been some sort of preplanned, advance agreement to do this, you would have expected that they wouldn't be moving furniture and programs out of the Gathering Room at the last minute so that the carpeting could be installed. So again, I know of no single fact that indicates any sort of preplanning here. I have to deal in facts, not in opinions. And certainly not in hyperbole. We should expect nothing more from our employees than we ourselves are willing to do. So, for example, again, in the case of the furniture, it's a good thing we got some furniture, and we're going to find a use for it. We're going to have it appraised so the auditors know exactly what its value is – and it's definitely a good thing. But, again, it didn't happen in the right order. It happened in the reverse order – in the same way that the carpeting didn't happen in the right order – but it was done. And, again, now that the facts are all in, there will be action taken. The Director understands that that's the case.

I just want to also mention, and thank everybody who participated, in the Cuyhoga Valley Chamber of Commerce Luncheon last week. Present from City Council were Councilwoman Ernst, Councilman Fraundorf, our Council President Mike Barth, and Councilman Trafis. Councilman Bryda was also there. A panel discussion of several of the Mayors in our area was held along a wide variety of different subjects. We'll be putting out some information on this for those who might be interested in things such as economic development, what's happening with the Biltmore Nursing Home, what is the current situation with the sharing arrangement that we worked out with the City of Independence. We're going to be documenting that in the future and putting it out there for anybody who happens to be interested in that.

I want to mention a little bit about the floor motions that were made previously for the Police purchases. Again, we can't be flying by the seat of our pants here. When we spend this kind of money there needs to be some due diligence done. If you recall, for those of you who are aware of this, the floor motion was made for \$50,000.00 for two vehicles. Well as we now know the bare vehicles are \$56,000.00 for two vehicles, and there is approximately another \$10,000.00 above that to outfit them, detail them, etc. So two vehicles is actually about a \$65,000.00 to \$66,000.00 purchase.

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Mayor Dell'Aquila (continued):

The other problem with the floor motion as it was made was that it would have required that those monies be spent out of the 2014 budget rather than the 2015 budget. That budget is coming in here at the end of the year. We already know that's going to be a deficit. We're doing a lot of things to try to reduce that deficit as much as we can due to cuts from the State of Ohio which we have no control over. It would have been foolhardy to put on an additional \$50,000.00 spending in 2014 when we had planned all along to do it in the 2015 budget.

I guess that's all I have this evening. I just want to say Happy Thanksgiving to everybody. It's been a real exciting pleasure for me to be involved with the City this long, and I do appreciate all the kind words of support that I get from you and some of the wonderful things that I've heard here this evening. Thank you everybody.

Council President Barth thanked Mayor Dell'Aquila for his comments.

Mayor Dell'Aquila's remarks drew a round of applause from the audience.

Council President Barth concluded:

"I'd just like to say that I met Mr. Terry at St. Columbkille. I've seen him around. I didn't know him personally. He'd coached basketball at St. Columbkille, as do I. The first time I really heard of him or met him or talked to him was at the Senior Breakfast last week, and I must say I was certainly impressed with him. I think, Seniors, you're going to be pleasantly surprised at the work he's going to do for you.

MOTION by Mrs. Lecznar, seconded by Mr. Trafis, to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: all yea

MOTION CARRIED

The November 24, 2014 Council Meeting was adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Michael C. Barth, President of Council

Attest: _____
Carol L. Sekerak, Clerk of Council

Date: _____