

**MINUTES**  
**August 5 2015**

Niles City Council held its regular meeting on August 5, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers Safety Service Complex in Niles, Ohio.

The meeting was called to order by President Robert Marino, and the Clerk, Lori Kuszmaul, called the roll:

Lastic-P, Papalas-P, Giancola-P, McCormick-P, Stredney-P, Merlo-P, Pezzano-P, Marino-P

It was moved by Stredney, seconded by Papalas to accept the Minutes from the July 29, 2015 meeting and place them on file.

Motion carried.

**REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

FROM the Department of Commerce, Division of Liquor Control  
Notice to Legislative Authorities Re: Permit Renewal Objections

It was moved by Papalas, seconded by Giancola to accept the letter and place it on file.

Mr. McCormick: Will it be up to us to notify permit holders or do they do that?

Mr. Dull: The State notifies them automatically.

Mr. McCormick: Ok.

Motion carried

FROM Penn Care

Letter dated 07/22/15 from Shawn Bryant, President Penn Care

It was moved by Pezzano, seconded by Papalas to accept the letter and place it on file.

Mr. Pezzano: Mr. President, I would like to make a remark. I met with Mr. Bryant right after this happened for about an hour and a half. Mr. Mayor, I know it was requested by Mr. Parise to try to find out about the water pressure. Did we ever get an answer about that?

Mayor Infante: Yes. Joe said the water pressure is where it's supposed to be. It automatically shuts off when it's too high.

Mr. Pezzano: We had another break this morning on Camrose and Summerberry. But the pressure is okay then?

Mayor Infante: Yes.

Mr. Pezzano: Something has to be going on, sir, because –

Mayor Infante: A lot of pressure in the North Road area.

Mr. Pezzano: In the North Road area we've got numerous breaks. I wish Mr. –

Mayor Infante: We had nine in the month of June.

Mr. Pezzano: Month of June?

Mayor Infante: Yes.

Mr. Pezzano: Okay. Thank you.

President Marino: Is there a second to place it on file?

Mr. Giancola: I second.  
Motion carried.

President Mariano: Mr. Papalas?

Mr. Papalas: What are we doing to look into this? How are we investigating it?

Mr. Dull: I also received a copy of that letter. I passed it onto our insurance company and I'm waiting for them to get back to me.

Mr. Papalas: Okay, but then meanwhile, what are we doing to investigate these breaks in the water lines over there?

Mayor Infante: I asked Joe to check with the MVSD to see if the pressure is too high and if we can bring it down some. Turn some valves. He's going to check into that.

Mr. McCormick: We did have a big construction project on North Road and they fixed it all up great but with all that equipment over there it could have disturbed the water lines and we're seeing some breaks because of all that construction activity. That's just a possibility.

Mayor Infante: No, I think it's some pressure problem. The break in the line was like that.

Mr. Papalas: When will we start to experiment by lowering the pressure?

Mayor Infante: Well, Joe's going to get back to me once he talks to them out there. Joe used to work out there so he knows everything.

Mr. Papalas: When did the last break occur?

Mr. Pezzano: This morning.

Mayor Infante: Today. We had another one today.

Mr. Papalas: At Penn Care?

Mayor Infante: No, Camrose and North Road.

Mr. Pezzano: Mr. Papalas, in front of Penn Care, that was the third time. Not this year, but the third time in front of his business. The water runs right down into his business, so he's doing a lot of landscaping down there right now to put up like a retaining wall so hopefully it doesn't happen again. But I know today on the corner of Camrose and Summerberry right in that vicinity within 10 or 15 yards there's three breaks right there in that area. Not just today, but within the last couple of months. I know Mr. Mayor is trying to find out about the pressure, but something is definitely going on. Those lines are old, but there's other areas of the city that are older. They are also on Route #46 by Eastwood Arms, like north of Eastwood Arms, there was another break there.

Mayor Infante: When Joe gets back to me with a report, I'll get back to you.

FROM The Auditor's Office  
The Estimated Versus Actual Revenues thru July 2015

Mr. Papalas: How are we doing Chuck?

Mr. Nader: The income tax is down as you all know. Water, light and sewer revenues are up, which is a good thing, but like I said, the income tax is down and it is hurting us.

Mr. Papalas: Okay.

President Marino: How much is it down?

Mr. Nader: I had it at \$90,000.00 from last year.

President Marino: I would assume we're taking the necessary steps spending-wise to accommodate that?

Mr. Nader: Last Wednesday at Board of Controls I put out a letter that the Board of Control passed that any general funds, police, fire or any other funds that general subsidizes, any unnecessary spending is gone.

Mr. Papalas: Well, we need to make that statement loud and clear tonight for all of us, for all the department heads that are here and everybody else. I know, I think you're going to anyway, but that has to be stated very clearly.

It was moved by Papalas, seconded by Pezzano to accept the report and place it on file.  
Motion carried

**MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

None.

**COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

**ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_ (Draft No. 51-15)**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NOS. 10-07 AND 17-12, IN PART, BY ELIMINATING THE FULL TIME-POSITION OF DIRECTOR FOR THE WELLNESS CENTER AND CREATING THE PART-TIME POSITION OF EVENTS COORDINATOR; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

Mr. Papalas: Mr. Chairman, I discussed this with the Mayor and a couple other people and we want to table this ordinance this evening so that the Mayor and I and Mike Lastic can discuss the details that we want included in the ordinance. It's not quite ready yet and I think the Mayor understands that and we voiced our concerns to him, so we are going to have a meeting very soon and this ordinance should be ready then for a final ready the first meeting in September.

It was moved by Papalas, seconded by Lastic to table Draft No. 51-15.  
Motion carried.

**ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_ (Draft No. 54-15)**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR A NEW ENGINE FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

It was moved by McCormick, seconded by Papalas to suspend the rule requiring three readings.

Mr. Giancola: Yes. I just wanted to know, did you find the funds for the \$20,000.00?

Mr. Papalas: The funding will come from, hopefully, the sale of the two old fire trucks and if we still don't meet it, then we can build it in the new budget in January.

**YEAS: 7    NAYS: 0**

Rules are suspended.

It was moved by Papalas, seconded by Giancola to adopt this Draft No. 54.-15.

**YEAS: 7    NAYS: 0**

Draft No. 54-15 has been adopted on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2015.

President Marino: Chief Danielson has a request.

Chief Danielson: Due to the timeframe with this grant we received, we have to have the truck into the station no later than June 30th. With that timeframe I would like to request a special council meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup>. We are opening up the bids on the 21<sup>st</sup> and I would like to have council accept the bid on the 26<sup>th</sup> so we can get the contract signed and out.

Mr. Papalas: What is the date?

Chief Danielson: 26<sup>th</sup> of this month.

Mr. McCormick: Does this come to us for approval or does it go somewhere else first and come to us and we'll authorize it?

President Marino: This is to advertise the bid and bring it back.

Mr. McCormick: It does come back to the Mayor or Service Director?

President Marino: Yes.

Mr. McCormick: Then they'll make the call on that?

Mr. Papalas: I'll make a motion that we have a special council meeting the afternoon of August 26<sup>th</sup> for the purpose of passing an ordinance to accept the bids for a new fire truck.

President Marino: We didn't pick a time.

Mr. Merlo: 6:30 or 7:00 would be better for me.

President Marino: Okay. On August 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30, council will have a special council meeting for the fire truck and any other business that may be pertinent at that time. It will be held here in council chambers at 6:30.

Mr. Papalas: Lori, will you please remind us?

Clerk: Yes, I will.

It was moved by Papalas, seconded by Lastic to have a special council meeting on August 26, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. in council chambers.

Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_(Draft No. 55-15)**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FROM THE UNAPPROPRIATED WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT DESIGN AND IMPROVEMENT FUND TO THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT'S DESIGN AND IMPROVEMENT FUND'S CONSULTANT FEES ACCOUNT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

It was moved by McCormick, seconded by Papalas to give this Draft No. 55-15 a first reading.

**YEAS: 7    NAYS: 0**

Draft No. 55-15 has received its first reading.

**ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_(Draft No. 56-15)**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO CONTRACT FO THE CITY OF NILES WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT IMPROVEMENT PFOJECT; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

Mr. McCormick: We are kind of under the gun again here on time so I think it's going to be necessary that we go for suspension here. This is the one that I advised you about at the last meeting in order to meet our time frame and get everything done, we need to move as quickly as possible.

It was moved by McCormick, seconded by Stredney to suspend the rule requiring three readings.

**YEAS: 7    NAYS: 0**

Rules are suspended.

It was moved by Papalas, seconded by Lastic to adopt this Draft No. 56-15.

**YEAS: 7    NAYS: 0**

Draft No. 56-15 has been adopted on the 5th day of August, 2015.

**ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_ (Draft No. 57-15)**

**AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH ADDITIONAL FEES CHARGED UNDER CHAPTER 14 OF THE NILES CODIFIED ORDINANCES, THE HOUSING MAINTENANCE CODE, FOR NON-COMPLIANCE WITH CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS OF SAID CODE; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

Mr. Papalas: This ordinance was supposed to have been part of the ordinance that we passed at the last council meeting, but there was an oversight and I would like to move for suspension. I think we all discussed this at our meeting before and so forth and I would like to get this ordinance in place.

It was moved by Papalas, seconded by Giancola to suspend the rule requiring three readings.

Mr. Papalas: It deals with an increase in fees in the building and housing inspection's office.

**YEAS: 7    NAYS: 0**

Rules are suspended.

It was moved by Papalas, seconded by Pezzano to adopt this Draft No. 57.-15.

Mr. Papalas: This is also part of the Mayor's financial plan,.

**YEAS: 7    NAYS: 0**

Draft No. 57-15 has been adopted on the 5th day of August, 2015.

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_ (Draft No. 58-15)**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LINE ITEM TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM THE BUILDING & ZONING AND HEALTH DEPARTMENTS WAGES' ACCOUNT TO BUILDING AND ZONING REFUND ACCOUNT AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

It was moved by Papalas, seconded by Giancola to suspend the rule requiring three readings.

Mr. Merlo: Will this reduce the financial plan?

Mr. Papalas: I didn't hear you.

Mr. Merlo: If we're taking this from the health department on the money we're saving, isn't this going to reduce the savings that we're getting in the financial plan?

President Marino: Chuck.

Mr. Nader: Yes.

Mr. McCormick: Tony had spoken before on this. This needs to be done. This has to be done.

Mr. Merlo: My point is this is money that we were going to be saving in the financial plan that we are not now.

Mr. McCormick: Well, we will in the future. This is a one-shot deal here, right?

President Marino: Yes, we have to do this. You're 100% correct.

Mr. Merlo: Yes, I agree with him.

Mr. McCormick: I hate to take anything away from the rescue plan, but I think this has to be done.

President Marino: We do have to do this, correct.

Mr. Merlo: I'm not in disagreement with that. I just wanted to make clear that this reduces the recovery plan.

**YEAS: 7    NAYS: 0**

Rules are suspended.

It was moved by Stredney, seconded by Pezzano to adopt this Draft No. 58.-15.

Mr. Papalas: Mr. Chairman, this is \$8,000.00. Not \$80,000.00, not eighty million, but \$8,000.00 and we talked about it at the previous meeting when Anthony requested it and I told everybody here that we will find that money for him. This is a refund on an insurance claim I believe, correct?

Mr. Vigorito: Yes.

Mr. Papalas: If we don't pay it, we're going to court. We need to pay this bill and in connection with this, the Auditor is going to be making a statement very shortly as you know concerning any additional expenditures out of the general fund. So this is it. What you see right here. Nobody is asking for anything more.

Mr. McCormick: When this money originally came in, it went into the general fund. We received this money already. We're just putting it back where it's supposed to go.

**YEAS: 7    NAYS: 0**

Draft No. 58-15 has been adopted on the 5th day of August, 2015.

### MISCELLANEOUS REMARKS

President Marino: Just to make sure that our calendars are all clear, on August 19<sup>th</sup>, fiscal commission will meet here in council chambers at 4:00 p.m. On August 26, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. in council chambers, council will have a special council meeting for the awarding the bids for the fire truck and any other business that may be pertinent at that time.

Mr. Guarino: I would just like to thank the Chief for following through with the grant for the fire truck and requesting the special council meeting to award the bids.

Chief Danielson: I would to thank council for everything they are doing.

President Marino: I'm very pleased that it is being publicly bid and getting everybody an opportunity to make a proposal.

Mr. Vigorito: I want to thank you for transferring the money back so I can get the bill taken care of. Hopefully, that other account will get approved by the state and I have another one that's already done and I'm just waiting for the check.

Mr. Papalas: How much is that one?

Mr. Vigorito: \$11,000.00.

Mr. Papalas: Do you need that from us?

Mr. Vigorito: That's in the other account that you started.

Mr. Papalas: Okay, good.

President Marino: Mr. Crowley, you're doing a good job. I appreciate it and I know I pester you an awful lot with properties. If I ask you about a home, you're on it so I greatly appreciate what you're doing and staying after it, so thank you.

Mr. Catanzarite: Couple things. First of all, I'd like to thank council and especially Steve Papalas on the wonderful job he did Saturday. I know he was running around with his head cut off all last week, but the bridge dedication I thought went very well and that's because Steve did a great job. I would like to thank the incoming council members that came down along with Reggie and our council members that came down to the plant Saturday and I'm grateful that they have a better idea of what we are doing down there. I'd like to also say that we'd like to advertise the 10<sup>th</sup>, the 17<sup>th</sup> of August. We have pre-bid meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> of August. We will accept bids on September 4<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 and I know I have talked about how we have to push this through because we have special funding through the EPA and it has to be done this year. With

that in mind, I know the 26<sup>th</sup> is a special meeting and if something comes up, I'm not on the Agenda --

President Marino: No, you can -- the meeting is for bids on the fire truck and any other pertinent business so if you have an ordinance that you need approved at that time, council will consider that.

Mr. Catanzarite: So if something comes up, I can present it?

President Marino: You sure can, yes.

Mr. Nader: Yes. Like what Steve said earlier, last week at the Board of Control we passed a letter stating that as of August 1<sup>st</sup> there would be no unnecessary spending in all funds affected by general. So that would be all the general funds, park, cemetery, police and fire. Those funds are subsidized by general. Any unnecessary spending. Any ordinary spending has to go through me and the Board of Control for approval. If they need to replace or fix a vehicle, etc., that's a normal every day thing that has to be done. We have to have safety first. The reason we are doing that this early this year is we're going to need to be able to meet payroll by the end of the year. The money is tight. There is not any excess and if we don't start cutting all the spending and money whatever funds we can find into payroll, we're not going to meet payroll by the end of the year, so that's why we are doing this.

President Marino: How close is it now? What's the unencumbered funds balance in the general fund right now?

Mr. Nader: There is no unencumbered. There's money coming in that we're spending. If we don't get our overtime under control, and I mean the state's been saying this, the state's been giving, you know, what the payroll's been doing, and the commission been saying this is important to everybody. It's not imaginary, we don't have appropriations to meet payroll in December. That's how bad it is.

President Marino: Well, are there spending cuts or freezes going to be enough?

Mr. Nader: I really don't think so. I do not.

President Marino: So when are you and the administration going to come up with a plan to address this if you're saying now that in December we're going to have no money to make payroll?

Mr. Nader: I've talked with the Mayor. I've talked -- that's why I want council to know, we can start doing a plan, but any plan has to be -- to go forward, there will be cuts in appropriations and there would be layoffs.

President Marino: This is August. For all practical purposes it will soon be September so when can seven fellas that have to vote on something anticipate a more formalized recommendation than just a letter saying no more spending?

Mr. Nader: If you guys want a letter, I'll have it for you the first meeting in September.

Mr. Papalas: A letter of what?

Mr. Nader: What I think you should do.

Mr. Papalas: I think this letter also needs to come from the Mayor.

President Marino: Right.

Mr. Papalas: Mayor, are you looking at what we are going to do?

Mayor Infante: Yes. Mostly I rely on Nita and Tim from month-to-month. We go through this and see what percentage we are at in every department in the general fund. We get reports at every fiscal commission meeting.

Mr. Papalas: But I'm sure at this point we only have one quarter left and we have to know what's going to happen.

Mayor Infante: We have two departments that for June were at 60% and they should have been at 50% and that's police and fire. So we have to keep an eye on it.

Mr. Papalas: Would you agree the longer we wait the more people we'll have to lay off in December?

Mayor Infante: I'd say so.

Mr. Papalas: Can we start looking?

Mayor Infante: Well, we're waiting to see when we get done with July's report from Nita and Tim. We'll get that on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Papalas: Is there any other way that we could cut drastically from the budget to avoid the issue that is coming in November and December?

Mayor Infante: I'm not sure. Police and fire budgets are 7.5 million. We only bring in 6.

Mr. Papalas: I really think then that we ought to start letting people know at least informally that their lives might be disrupted at the end of the year. They should know that.

Mayor Infante: Both chiefs know it. I've been telling them.

Mr. McCormick: It will be in the paper tomorrow.

Mayor Infante: The problem is there are some situations that they can probably tell you, some are off on sick leave or an injury, we've got overtime. There's nothing we can do about it, so that's been a problem.

Chief Danielson: The majority of overtime for the fire department this year, I still have a guy off from February 1<sup>st</sup> who was involved in a snow mobile accident. He's not coming back until hopefully by the end of this month. I had a guy off for four months for back surgery. He's back. I have another guy off until the end of the month with an injury. I just talked to him yesterday and he will not be back until later this year. These last three spots have created about 90% of the overtime in my department.

Mr. Papalas: Well, Chief I want to emphasize this to you and the other department heads. I'm not finding fault with you or the department. What I'm concerned about is this, and I know that we are bringing old things up, but it was a year ago in May that Chuck you told me that we need to lay 13 people off. Do you remember?

Mr. Nader: Yes.

Mr. Papalas: And we went down and had the meeting and they saw the paper and, you know, your mind changed and I know that for months and months before that and after Dr. Marino and I and other people here have been voicing concern about this crash and that's what it's going to be, and we feel some people just haven't gotten a handle on it. So now here we are and it's pretty obvious what's going to happen. I see it. I don't know if everybody else can appreciate what's going to happen, but it's going to be very ugly and we went through this in the 1980's, early '89's. Fremont Camerino is sitting here and he was our President of Council and I know he remembers what it was like, and it's just very very serious. I wish we could avoid that. I wish could have avoided it months ago, years ago when we were discussing this and here we are. And I know in December, we're going to be having this same conversation. I hope not.

President Marino: Chuck, one other question. We have that income tax on in the November ballot. Correct? Isn't that on the November ballot, the income tax?

Mr. Nader: Correct.

President Marion: What is it, \$900,000.00 a year it generates? That's what we were told.

Mr. Nader: Yes.

President Marino: So, you'll still be the Auditor when we go through budget hearings. We'll know then where we are going to be without the \$900,000.00 or with the \$900,000.00, so we're at zero at the end of the year and if the income tax fails, that makes for a much much worse painted picture. So what can we expect from you looking into 2016?

Mr. Nader: Right now, we passed a budget, an alternative tax budget, all we put into revenue is what we expect to collect this year, so there's no – that's the revenue so the budget has to meet that or there will be cuts even before we know if the income tax passes. It has to get passed.

President Marino: All right.

Mr. Merlo: On the same subject, Chief or Chuck, those employees on sick leave, can you put a dollar amount on those, what that overtime is?

Chief Danielson: Yes. I've been keeping track of the actual overtime cost. I don't have those numbers with me. (Inaudible) The guys have really been watching on calling off and the overtime has been reduced. In the spring we paid approximately \$10,000.00 in overtime (inaudible)

Mr. Merlo: I know we'll get a figure on the 19<sup>th</sup>, but can you give us what you're at right now based upon your numbers?

Chief Danielson: I can give you a copy.

Mr. Merlo: Okay.

Mayor Infante: I think it's about \$40,000.00 for fire.

Mr. Giancola: Let me ask a question, what about minimal manning? Is that in effect yet?

Mayor Infante: Sure it is.

Mr. Giancola: Well, we're still paying that much in overtime with minimal manning now?

Mayor Infante: Yes, it's in the contract. That's negotiable, but that's not for here.

Mr. Lastic: What happens if we lay off?

Mayor Infante: Well, right now the contract is still open. It is not finalized.

Mr. Papalas: What Mike is getting at is that Chief, if we have to lay off that deeply, you're not going to have men to worry about minimal manning. That's the situation we're going to be heading for.

Chief Danielson: Yes, but we'll have to play it by ear on that.

Mr. Papalas: That's where we're heading, you guys can forget about the overtime because the money is not going to be there and the man power might not be there.

Chief Danielson: I understand.

Mr. Papalas: Okay. Do the men know that?

Chief Danielson: I've been telling them

Mr. Papalas: You're doing a good job on what you have.

President Marino: It's also important to note that this is why we need that payroll, computerized payroll, so we're not looking at -- with all due respect -- pieces of paper. I was in that meeting when a piece of paper got floated around. We need hard data which is what I said while sitting with the fiscal commission member and I think it is very important that we have hard numbers, good numbers, verified by the state auditor first. So I guess I'm agreeing with what the Mayor has said that we must rely on what the state auditor is telling us at those meetings with those reports and benchmarking any decision we make off of the numbers provided to us by them.

Mr. Lastic: When are you meeting?

Mr. Nader: We'll know by September 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mr. Papalas: Mr. Chairman, I have a sample resolution concerning a moratorium against injection wells. This resolution was passed by the Trumbull County Commissioners, various townships and cities. We're requested to address this as well, so I showed it to most of the council members. I would like to have this sponsored by council as whole at the next special meeting that we have, if that's all right with everyone. I'll make that motion at this time.

Mr. McCormick: Did you say injection wells?

Mr. Papalas: Yes.

Mr. McCormick: How is this different than what we already passed?

Mr. Papalas: That stopped everything even trucks coming through.

Mr. McCormick: This is just the injection wells?

Mr. Papalas: Yes. This has been in the newspapers and been on TV. Gil Blair, one of the trustees from Weathersfield, has been heavily involved in this and he wants to take this and have it passed and take it to Columbus when he goes down. So may I make a motion that we sponsor this resolution at the next meeting as council as a whole?

President Marino: It was moved by Papalas, seconded by Giancola to sponsor the resolution as council as a whole.

Motion carried.

Mr. McCormick: Note that I abstain since I haven't seen it.

President Marino: Fair enough.

Mr. Papalas: Well, I had it here.

Mr. McCormick: I must have missed it Steve because it didn't go by me.

Mr. Papalas: Okay.

President Marino: You'll get a copy of that before the next meeting.

Mr. Papalas: I also want to review the complaints from the last meeting concerning flooding, Mayor. Remember Mrs. Kieley was here and other individuals; have we checked their storm sewers?

Mayor Infante: They were down at different areas last week so they were cleaning all the catch basins out with jets. I don't know how far they got.

Mr. Papalas: Okay. And then the areas where the catch basins were so clogged that they couldn't be done?

Mayor Infante: Those are done. They are cleaned out.

Mr. Papalas: Including Stepney Street?

Mayor Infante: Yes. I'm pretty sure but I'll check on that. Do you know Andy?

Mr. Catanzarite: I'm not 100% sure on Stepney.

Mr. Papalas: Well, the neighbors have been watching for people.

Mr. Catanzarite: I don't know all the different streets that are done. I can get a copy of what's been done. I get a copy when done. I do know they went up on Summerberry. There were two catch basins that they cleaned out, but unfortunately, sewer lines were plugged solid with gravel.

Mr. Papalas: Those are situations I'm worried about.

Mr. Catanzarite: I understand. So am I. I'm tired of getting phone calls at work all day. We are trying to get it done. There is a lot of gravel in those lines and the jets won't go through it.

Mr. Papalas: On Stepney?

Mr. Catanzarite: I apologize. I'm not totally familiar with all the streets.

Mr. Papalas: These flood areas, what are we going to do about it? We can't wait until it rains knowing every place that gets flooded is going to flood.

Mayor Infante: We might have to borrow from the county again. We got through a couple of them.

Mr. Catanzarite: We are hoping through the plant project to get another truck. The same truck that we got as a demo, it went right through those lines. That truck went through lines that the county truck couldn't even get through. We use salt and gravel mixture in the winter time and the gravel gets into the catch basins and it sits there. It gets calcification and it gets hard. We finally have our truck back. Our truck virtually runs at about, I'm guessing, about 30% of what it should do. We can rent one from Doheny a month for \$14,000.00 a month for that truck. That's why we're trying to (inaudible)

President Marino: How soon will you get that truck?

Mr. Catanzarite: (inaudible) we put in for it. As a matter of fact (inaudible) so it's possible that I could get that – they are built in Indiana and they only take about six to eight months to get built. You have to get on the waiting list, so once we get into that –

President Marino: Well, we may have to rent that truck for a month to get that done because we can't have people watching rain and knowing that their drains or the storm sewers are plugged and they're going to get flooded.

Mr. Pezzano: Andy, I have the answer for Stepney Drive. It's not on the list yet that was given to us since the last council meeting.

Mr. Catanzarite: It's not?

Mr. Pezzano: No, it's not.

Mr. Catanzarite: Okay then it hasn't been done yet.

Mr. Papalas: Well, here's the way I see it. I don't have any problem with any of you guys and the plan you have set up, but I went there to these homes and saw it. They know their homes flood only because the sewer water backs up from the catch basin all the way through their neighborhood up their driveways and down their basement windows into their basements. They have to watch their houses get flooded. These are people who take care of their neighborhoods, take care of their property and respect each other and they pay their sewer bills and their water bills every month diligently. All they have to look forward to is the next big rain knowing that they will have a flood again. I don't know how we can stand by and wait for this to happen. It's almost negligence on our part to have that happen and so I have to agree with Mr. Marino, I think we better get that truck and get to work on it.

Mayor Infante: Well, the weather condition wasn't that great either. In June we had 7 inches of rain. Most cities can't handle that. So let's not put it all on a couple storm sewers here and there. We had a lot of rain. I got water in my basement too.

Mr. Papalas: What happened two years ago, three years ago when we had a lot of rain? Nothing happened.

Mayor Infante: Yes, it did. Every time it rains we have a lot of issues.

Mr. Papalas: No. Never on Stepney Street. Don't tell me that.

Mayor Infante: With 7 inches of rain?

Mr. Papalas: Never on Stepney Street ever.

Mayor Infante: I'm sure it's not on Stepney, but in other areas.

Mr. Papalas: Well then if it happened on Stepney, that tells us there's a big time problem.

President Marino: Gentlemen, I know there's a problem. We have to fix it.

Mr. Papalas: Then let's fix it.

President Marino: That's the bottom line.

Mr. Papalas: If the sewers are so clogged they are not working, then we have a responsibility –

Mayor Infante: Those were isolated incidents. That happens all over town. Once Stepney's done, it could happen somewhere else. Frank's got some. We cleaned them out on Summerberry and that's fine now.

Mr. Papalas: We need to have a program where we are actually cleaning out the catch basins on a regular basis.

Mayor Infante: We do have a program.

Mr. Papalas: You can't.

Mayor Infante: We do. How many times do they check 422 because of the restaurants? At least three or four times a year.

Mr. Papalas: Maybe they've been there too long on 422.

Mayor Infante: No, they need done.

Mr. Papalas: Well, we need to take care of our neighborhoods.

Mayor Infante: And we have and will continue to do that.

Mr. Papalas: All right. Next time it floods, I'm going to flood this room with all those people.

Mayor Infante: Next time it floods, I'll be here like you.

President Marino: Okay. Well, we're going to come up with a plan, Andy. Andy, we're going to look to you –

Mr. Papalas: What's the plan? I need a plan tonight because I have to get back to the residents. So let's have a plan. What are we going to do?

President Marino: Let me finish.

Mr. Catanzarite: With administration and council's pleasure or permission, I will continue to work with Mr. Pezzano and Mr. Hess and I will get quotes from getting the truck for a month and possible put that money towards our purchase of a rent to buy or something and I'll see what we can do and I'll have something for you by the next council meeting.

President Marino: And please consult with Mr. McCormick as well as he's the chair.

Mr. Papalas: Okay, Andy. That sounds good, but we absolutely have to do better.

Mr. Pezzano: I want to thank Mr. Crowley for attending my block watch meeting. He did a fantastic job.

**ADJOURN**

It was moved by Giancola, seconded by Merlo to adjourn the meeting.

  
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LORI KUSZMAUL, Clerk of Council

  
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ROBERT MARINO, JR., President of Council