

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
September 21, 2016

Niles City Council held its regular meeting on September 21, 2016 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, McNaughton-P, Steffey-P, Marchese-P, Mientkiewicz-P, Pezzano-P, Marino-P

It was moved by Steffey, seconded by Lastic to accept the Minutes from the September 7, 2016 regular council meeting and place it on file.

Motion carried.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

FROM The Niles City Auditor

Statement of Cash from Revenue and Expenses from 01/01/16 to 08/31/16

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

Motion carried.

FROM The Niles City Auditor

Proposed Budget Allocation for Repairs to the City Building

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

Motion carried.

MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Mary Ann Miller, 209 Cherry Street, Niles. I attended a roundtable meeting last week. No one was allowed to speak at that meeting. The council and the Mayor have no idea when it comes to repairing an old building, buying a new one (inaudible) but you don't know what we want. Nobody has asked anyone up until this time as to what do we want. You're spending an awful lot of money to fix an old building. You have other buildings in town that need work. The roof at the substation needs replaced. The Niles Times building is ready to fall down. There are a lot of empty buildings. We have all these things that need fixed and I've done some checking and one of them was the GE building and like Mr. Davis said, the ground around this building is contaminated. Well, I checked on that and there is contaminated silica. (inaudible), but we use silica sand in a sandbox, so it can't be that bad. I'm talking about a building that would house the offices that we now have in the old building, it would house the street department, it would house the water department, it would house every department we have. We would have enough room for the garages, we would have enough for offices, we would have enough for everything. The asking prices is quite high, more than what we figure it would cost to repair the old building, but we could go and talk to them and I'm sure they would make us a better offer. They want to

help Niles. They don't want to sit on that building. They are paying taxes, they're paying insurance and I think we ought to look at it. I think Wanda did more research than I have and she has talked to the realtor and he's willing to have anyone who wants to come and look at it. Thank you.

Amy Cantola, 208 Vienna Avenue, Niles. I have a question; can somebody tell me anything about our Audit Committee?

President Marino: Yes, I certainly can. The purpose of the Audit Committee was to get citizens involved with the pre and post audit. It has not started because we have – and I'm one of the ones responsible for it – we have been managing one crisis after the next with the state auditors and the fiscal commission and through the '15 audit. Beginning with the 2016 audit, we will commission that committee and we will move forward with that committee. That is the intent of the chair of that committee. We've had recommendations from council as to board members to serve on it, but I made the decision that it will commence with the '16 audit.

Amy Cantola: I was reading in the past Minutes that you had wanted to get the committee together and I thought well, I haven't heard anything about it and so now I know.

President Marino: For the 2016 audit. What these citizens will do is they will sit in on pre-audit meetings; they will sit in on post audits meetings so that you see what we see. That's the intent of it. This will be for the '16 audit. I do appreciate you asking.

Amy Cantola: I was just curious why there had not been anything done. Thank you.

President Marino: Would anyone else like to address Niles City Council?

George Kuriatnyk: 1206 Mason Street, Niles. The GE building, actually I got the contract. That one might be out. Do we have a dress code for the employees? Janet was saying they need hard hats and steel shoes to go onto construction sites, right?

Ms. Rizer Jones: For safety issues.

George Kuriatnyk: But do employees? The other day a guy from the water or sewer department had a red shirt, black shorts and flip flops. Is that what they're wearing?

President Marino: George, if you have a question regarding the administration and city employees, I would encourage you to make an appointment with the Mayor and Safety Service Director and go address them regarding that. Council does not administer the day to day comings and goings of employees. That is the responsibility of the administration. I'm not passing the buck. That is how it works. They answer to these gentlemen. These gentlemen do not oversee the day to day operations of the city. Anything else?

George Kuriatnyk: No, but one quick questions, can we get a meeting one day to get the answers to some really hard questions?

President Marino: I answer any question that is ever posed to Council.

George Kuriatnyk: I know you do and believe me I appreciate that.

President Marino: George, when it comes to employees, you do have to go to them.

George Kuriatnyk: Why can't we get answers? We're all adults here. Why can't we get answers to our questions instead of going to the Mayor? Everybody is here. Why can't we ask questions?

President Marino: You can ask questions.

George Kuriatnyk: No. Nobody answers our questions.

President Marino: I respectfully disagree with that my friend. I think that this city council in these chambers is as open a body as you will find anywhere. The day to day operations rest with the Mayor and the Safety Service Director. I cannot answer for them and neither can these members. Thank you. Anyone else wish to address council?

Mark Joseph, 1227 North Road, Niles. I do have some questions so this might be the perfect time. You'll have to excuse me I'm having a little bit of eye issues so I'm going to read. I apologize. My first question is since the project that's been said is a half million dollars for the city hall project – at least half a million I'm assuming – did we consult more than one architect or firm in the matter or was that gentleman that spoke last Wednesday, was he the only one that we consulted to do the assessment?

President Marino: Do you want to ask all your questions and then I can answer?

Mark Joseph: Fair enough. Thank you, sir. My second question is, I'd like to know what did he charge, what his fee was? I would also like to know if he is the only person that we had, what are his credentials? What has he done that allows him to do that assessment and come back with that dollar amount? Also, I would like to know the online location of the assessment so that we can read through it? Maybe it's out there, but I personally do not know where that is. When are we planning to have the RFP? Where online will the proposal be posted? Where online will the postings of the dates the time and location of the proposal meeting be? Hopefully, you realize a lot of us are advocates of this community and all we want to do is try to improve it and we've got to get ourselves out of this hole and I think all of us really want to do whatever we can to bring us out of this hole because right now we're not anywhere near getting out of this hole. Thank you for your time.

President Marino: Thank you, Mr. Joseph. Regarding RFP and the proposed opening date and the location, Jim, do you want to touch upon that?

Mr. DePasquale: It will be the 28th in the conference room of the city building at 11:00.

President Marino: So September 28th in the lower conference room of the city building will be when the bids are opened for the roof and the RFP.

Mark Joseph: Are those open to the public?

President Marino: Yes. That opening is open to the public.

Mark Joseph: I'm sorry, sir. Is that posted online where we can –

President Marino: Mr. Joseph, I'm not sure. Is it?

Mr. DePasquale: No, it isn't.

Mark Joseph: I'm just looking for a community board.

President Marino: I appreciate your question. Mayor, can you see if Mr. Dibble can post the actual advertisement, the RFP, which also includes the bid opening date, time and location as a link for our – actually we should have a link there for all of our bids. Anytime we are publicly advertising, there should be a public advertising link and as we're bidding, the bidding information should be posted there as one click and it all shows up. That's a reasonable request. Do we have the assessment from Mr. Sekanick?

Mr. DePasquale: We have the contract proposal.

President Marino: And that is the assessment?

Mr. DePasquale: Yes. That is 100 pages long.

President Marino: So we have the proposal from the architect that spells out areas that he and his team looked at and it includes what we discussed. Jim mentioned it's about 100 pages. We will have it posted in PDF. Mayor, can you see that it is put on online?

Mayor Scarnecchia: The full 100 pages?

President Marino: It can be put on in PDF. Put it on your copier, run it and it PDF's it. We do it all the time in my office. If you want to print it out, it's your paper at home if you want to make your own copy. Regarding the only person consulted, Mayor, you would be the one to answer that. Is Mr. Sekanick the only person that we spoke to?

Mayor Scarnecchia: Yes.

President Marino: The only person we spoke to was Mr. Sekanick?

Mayor Scarnecchia: Yes, he was highly recommended.

President Marino: His qualifications are he came highly recommended. I, too, did some checking because I wasn't familiar with him, Mr. Joseph, and he had worked on substantial projects in the Mahoning Valley. Substantial. I would prefer he speak for his firm. You can go to Sekanick and search on line and see what he's worked on. For me, he is very respected for what he has worked on.

Mr. Mientkiewicz: He did the work on the Cafaro building. He was the architect for the Cafaro building.

Mark Joseph: The Cafaro building was a brand new building, correct?

Mr. Mientkiewicz: Correct.

Mark Joseph: Obviously, where I'm thinking has he done any renovating? I'm not trying to be argumentative.

President Marino: No, you're fine. I think I've answered all your questions.

Mark Joseph: I did ask about the online location. The last thing is a small thing, but what did we pay him to do it?

President Marino: \$44,000.00. The contract was for \$50,000.00 and the Auditor explained during caucus that council has to appropriate \$50,000.00 because that's the contract amount. We have to make sure the money is there and then he has to invoice accordingly and his invoices – is that correct, Jim?

Mr. DePasquale: That's correct.

President Marino: John, is that correct?

Auditor Merlo: Yes.

President Marino: Would anybody else wish to address Niles City Council?

Mary Ellen Fusselman, 867 (audible) My question is, why do we have to have an architect? I really don't know, I'm just asking. What is the purpose of having an architect when there are buildings all the time that are being done, like contractors that do this work all the time? Is there a reason for an architect to oversee this project?

Mr. DePasquale. Yes. Any time you have a building, there's an architect involved. The contractors build, the architect designs.

Mary Ellen Fusselman: Right. The architect designs. So all these buildings that people do, they have an architect?

Mr. DePasquale: Yes, they do.

Mary Ellen Fusselman: That's my question.

Mr. DePasquale: Even with restorations, you want to bring in an architect.

Mary Ellen Fusselman: And you hire him to oversee it?

Mr. DePasquale: His job will be to oversee it, also.

Mary Ellen Fusselman: Okay. Thank you.

President Marino: Would anybody else wish to address Niles City Council?

Steve Telego, 358 N. Cleveland Avenue, Niles. I came here tonight to introduce myself as a candidate for the Trumbull Soil and Water Conservation Commission. It is a non-partisan board and many of you probably don't know this, but you have the right to vote for candidates for this board. It has nothing to do with the November 8th election at all. They have their own election on October 7th and the Department of Agriculture in Ohio meets and sets the rules and regulations for all meetings as it relates to soil and water. Ours is going to be October 7th. I'm challenging an incumbent. The seat is for three years and there is only two ways to vote, you either stop at the soil and water office in Cortland, Ohio on Friday, October 7th between the hours of 4:30 and 6:30 and vote. The other way is to request an absentee (inaudible) the office can send a ballot to you at your address and it has to be back in by the 7th. The commission is involved in a number of different things, many agricultural and rural type issues and horticultural. For example, the Toyota dealership that is being built on Route #46, before they could make the first shovel full of dirt out of the property, soil and water had to come and assess the property specifically for water runoff on that property and what kind of impact it would have on storm sewers. So their recommendation to them was to put in a retention pond and a number of other issues that they had to address. I was told the other day that the (inaudible) awarding the contract to them required they be 100% compliant is what they would like the contractor to do. The position starts January 1st of 2017. There are four other board members (inaudible) Other than that, it is an unpaid position. You simply put in free time. I'm retired and I would like to apply for the job and if anybody has any questions about it, I have the forms here for a request and I will be here after the meeting to take any questions.

Mr. Pezzano: Mr. Telego, I'm Frank Pezzano. Is it your wife or sister-in-law that works out there?

Steve Telego: Yes, correct. She's the financial personal out there.

Mr. Pezzano: Your wife?

Steve Telego: Sister-in-law. That's basically how I got tied up with them. I really got interested in the projects that they were doing, getting involved in the farmer markets. Once a year they have an annual tree sell and they also are running a tulip sale right now also and fish. They

provide educational support for schools. They come out and talk about conservation needs and they also provide technical assistance to people who have farms.

Mr. Pezzano: Thank you.

President Marino: Anybody else wish to address council?

Al Cantola, 208 Vienna Avenue. What I would like to bring up today really I have brought up in the past and that is do we have specifically some sort of timeline for our recovery plan and where we might be at and what some of our goals are throughout that plan? It seems like we are always running up against the wall because we have something that – a roof, a building, etc. There is no way we can -- and I would like to know that timeline would be. I think that somebody from the administration they should be thinking about that also. I'm not saying anybody isn't, I'm just saying from a public standpoint, it would be nice monthly, quarterly, once maybe just to look at what our actual plan is, our goals and our agenda and meet that criteria, where we are at and where we are going to end up at. I'm not really looking for an answer, I'm just saying we need to have a plan and we need to be looking at that especially with the issues that have come up in front of us. Thank you.

President Marino: Your name and address for the record, please.

Sherry Smith, 1342 Robbins Avenue. I just wanted to thank whoever was responsible for putting the legislation on the city link because we now understand what you are talking about before we come in here and I was able to ask my council person questions that I thought (inaudible).

President Marino: Well, that credit goes to pretty much everyone. It is our commitment to being as transparent as possible. That doesn't mean we are always going to agree because I know we don't, but that doesn't mean we have to be extremely disagreeable. I do want to go back for one second and speak about why we hired an architect because many of us had a hand in that. The reason that occurred is because we wanted to make sure that one, we publicly did that project. In order to publicly bid, we needed design specifications to ensure that the specifications that everybody could bid on are the same. That everybody is bidding on the same apple. Additionally, when we came to the shell of the building, we wanted somebody to look at that to make sure the building was structural sound. To the best of my knowledge, the city does not possess an expert to do that and to call contractors in and say, what do you think, what do you think, what do you think, best practice from my experience is you call an architect and they evaluate it, they'll put the specifications together and this council and administration is committed to publicly bidding all pieces of that building repair. That's why it happened. Could you call up a contractor and say, what are you going to do to put the roof on? Most definitely, you could do that. In this case, I think it's safe – I don't want to speak for everyone – we felt that the best business practice was to hire an architect and have that individual do specifications, publicly bid, evaluate the bids and inspect as it's being installed to insure that the public's money is being spent and we are getting what we paid for. I just wanted to make sure you understood all the pieces of that and how that occurred.

Mark Joseph: You did say something about the architect evaluating the bids, is that correct?

President Marino: He will.

Mark Joseph: Okay. So that's a little more information. I know the council does and I would think the city does, but I didn't know an outside firm would also be inspecting the bids as well.

President Marino: The architect goes through those bids to make sure what is in the bids, what the contractor is offering to do matches up with what is in the bid specifications. When Bruce was here he was speaking all this lingo, this vinyl polyurethane, whatever roof, that we get that in the bid spec. Would anyone else like to address council?

Sherry Smith: I wanted to say in reference to what Mr. Joseph asked about Mr. Sekanick's renovation experience, (inaudible)

President Marino: Okay. Thank you. In the opinion of the chair, there being none, Committee Reports.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

President Marino: There being no Committee Reports, would the Clerk please present tonight's legislation?

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCE NO. _____ (Draft No. 120-16)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR COLLECTION SERVICES FOR THE INCOME TAX DEPARTMENT WITH NATIONAL ENTERPRISE SYSTEMS, INC; AUTHORIZING THE COLLECTION OF AN "ADD-ON" FEE; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

It was moved by Steffey to table this ordinance until we have had a chance to review this a little closer during our next finance meeting which will be determined.

It was moved by Steffey, seconded by Marchese to table this Draft No. 120-16.
Motion carried.

This Draft No. 120-16 was tabled this 21st day of September 2016.

RESOLUTION NO. _____(Draft No. 121-16)

A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FROM THE UNAPPROPRIATED GENERAL FUND TO THE INCOME TAX POSTAGE AND OFFICE SUPPLIES ACCOUNTS; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

It was moved by Papalas, seconded by Lastic to give this Draft a first reading.

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

This Draft No. 121-16 has received its first reading.

RESOLUTION NO. _____(Draft No. 122-16)

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNT AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BIDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR

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

Ms. Marchese: I have a question. Could someone explain what we are having certified?

Auditor Merlo: Page 2 tells you what the county is going to collect on our behalf. It tells you how much money will be brought in from property taxes, police and fire pension and for park department.

Ms. Marchese: Thank you.

President Marino: If you don't accept this, you can't spend money.

Auditor Merlo: Correct.

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

Rules are suspended.

It was moved by Papalas, seconded by McNaughton to adopt this Draft No. 122-16.

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

This Draft No. 122-16 has received its first reading this 21st day of September 2016.

President Marino: Do we have a motion to amend the Agenda to read Corrected Draft No. 123-16.

It was moved by Steffey, seconded by Mientkiewicz to amend the Agenda to read Corrected Draft No. 123-16.
Motion carried.

ORDINANCE NO. _____ (Corrected Draft No. 123-16)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT FOR THE REPAIR OF THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING ROOF; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

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

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

Rules are suspended.

It was moved by Papalas, seconded by Steffey to adopt this Corrected Draft No. 123-16.

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

This Corrected Draft No. 123-16 has been adopted on the 21st day of September 2016.

President Marino: Is there a need to adjourn into executive session before we put 124-16 on or are we permitted to proceed?

Mr. Papalas: I say we proceed. It's been negotiated through, correct?

President Marino: Right. Do we have a motion to add Drafts Number 124-16, 125-16, 126-16 and 127-16 to tonight's Agenda?

It was moved by Steffey, seconded by Marchese to add Drafts Number 124-16, 125-16, 126-16 and 127-16 to the Agenda.
Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. _____ (Draft No. 124-16)

A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE TENTATIVE LABOR AGREEMENT WITH THE OPBA DISPATCHERS UNIT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

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

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

Rules are suspended.

It was moved by Pezzano, seconded by Papalas to adopt this Draft No. 124-16.

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

This Draft No. 124-16 has been adopted on the 21st day of September 2016.

RESOLUTION ____ (Draft No. 125-16)

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PROPOSED CONFLICT OF INTEREST, FRAUD & FINANCIAL IMPROPRIETY AND OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT POLICY FOR CITY OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

It was moved by Papalas, seconded by Lastic to adopt this Draft No. 125-16.

Mr. Steffey: I would just like to thank all of those that contributed to the putting together of these policies. It was long overdue and I appreciate everybody's input to get to this point.

President Marino: These policies will be posted online for all of you to read. We sent an e-mail asking that upon approval they be posted. We will be getting more and more of these so that everybody sees them. The Mayor and Safety Service Director and Auditor will be sharing this information with the Department Heads along with myself in the coming days so insure that everybody understands the expectations of the policies. Call the roll for adoption, please

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

This Draft No. 125-16 has been adopted on the 21st day of September 2016.

RESOLUTION NO. ____ (Draft No. 126-16)

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PROPOSED VEHICLE USE POLICY FOR CITY VEHICLES; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

It was moved by Papalas, seconded by McNaughton to adopt this Draft No. 126-16.

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

This Draft No. 126-16 has been adopted on the 21st day of September 2016.

RESOLUTION NO. _____(Draft No. 127-16)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VARIOUS APPROPRIATIONS OF AMOUNTS FROM SEVERAL UNAPPROPRIATED FUNDS FOR CITY BUILDING REPAIRS; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

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

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

Rules are suspended.

It was moved by Papalas, seconded by Steffey to adopt this Draft No. 127-16.

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

This Draft No. 127-16 has been adopted on the 21st day of September 2016.

President Marino: That concludes tonight's legislation.

MISCELLANEOUS REMARKS

President Marino: Per your request, I've invited Mr. Robertson to attend our caucus on October 5, 2016 at 5:30 at our next council meeting to discuss working on grants and to give council updates on the progress and to allow you to ask, if you have questions, regarding what he's working on. Kevin is here tonight. He didn't know we were going to call on him, but there he is.

Auditor Merlo: I believe everyone received the tatement of cash tonight. I know Mr. Davis requested information with regards to the general fund, the light, water and sewer funds where those cash balances were and report on those. I think you can see on that report where the general fund is at, but as discussed in the commission meeting tonight, we still have funds that rely on the general fund for transfers. We still have the police pension, fire pension, police and fire ½ % that all need transferred into along with the cemetery and park. So at the end, you are looking at over \$300,000.00 cash balance in our general fund. Then our water is still sitting at a negative \$544,000.00, our light department is sitting at 10.9 million and sewer at 1.1. I think Mr. Davis asked for that at the last meeting. Going forward, I have already talked to President of Council and we're going to put this online so you in the community can see those balances, but just be aware when you do look at those balances that if there is a negative funds that rely on the general fund, that general fund may be a little misleading because we have 1.9 million cash balance.

Ms. Marchese: John, I have a question. Moving forward, has that grant been brought to your office yet?

Auditor Merlo: No, that's still being worked on. The swimming pool fund is not for the park swimming pool. The swimming pool fund --

Ms. Marchese: The grant that we're going to get.

Auditor Merlo: The swimming pool fund that you see on this document is not for the city's swimming pool. Those are swimming pools if someone goes out and puts a pool in, they have to pay a fee, inspections on those, that's what that's for. That's not for the city swimming pool.

Ms. Marchese: Have you received that grant yet?

Mr. DePasquale: Yes. We have the grant.

Ms. Marchese: What would that be under?

Mr. DePasquale: That would go under the park. It's under Ohio Public Natural Resources. You're asking where the fund would go?

Ms. Marchese: Yes.

Mr. DePasquale: It would go in the park.

Ms. Marchese: It can only be designated for the swimming pool, correct?

Mr. DePasquale: Correct. \$67,500.00.

Ms. Marchese: Thank you.

Auditor Merlo: The next thing I discussed at the Finance Meeting was the Wellness Center is still a thorn in my side so to speak with our budget. We looked at the budget today with my Deputy Auditor to discuss where our appropriations are there. We're sitting at about only \$9,000.00 left in contracted labor. That contracted labor was supposed to be ratified the second quarter and it never has been. We're going to have to be coming to you guys for additional appropriations out of the general fund in order to finish the year. We passed our savings of approximately \$22,000.00, increased revenue was placed in the budget. We don't have it, so in the next few months at a council meeting we are going to need we estimate anywhere from \$30,000.00 to \$40,000.00 additional for the Wellness Center budget contracted labor.

Mr. Papalas: We can't go on like this.

Ms. Marchese: No.

Mr. Papalas: Mayor, a couple of us have spoken to you, as you recall, about someone with a degree, master's degree, in sports management and --

Mayor Scarnecchia: We are working on that right now.

Mr. Papalas: When did we bring that up?

President Marino: It was cold out.

Mr. Papalas: We talked about this.

Mayor Scarnecchia: Yes.

Mr. Papalas: Nothing's happened. We can't afford another nine months. I'm going to throw Ryan McNaughton out there for a minute because in the administration at Kent State I know that they have a program. I believe Ohio State does. Maybe with contacts you have, you can get a list of the names of the graduates who would be interested in something like this and we could go through this with them and determine who is going to run the center that know how to run the center because we don't have anybody running it now, do we?

Mayor Scarnecchia: No, we don't.

Mr. Papalas: So I don't want to be relying on Joe Schmo or Tom, Dick and Harry, who has no background in this.

Mayor Scarnecchia: I agree.

Mr. Papalas: So, can I propose that? Ryan, can you do that for us?

Mr. McNaughton: Yes, sir.

Mr. Papalas: We'll help in any way we can, but something has to be done there. I know you and your Service Director have more on your plate than I ever want to think about having on mine, but right now this has come to the forefront and will be our next crises. So let us help you guys by bringing forth some names and looking into it.

Ms. Marchese: We had that, too, through the Wellness Board and it was supposed to be kept going and it kept getting stifled a little bit and that's exactly – we had some qualified people with degrees wanting to put their applications in.

Mr. Papalas: And we need to work with the Wellness Board on this, also. It's not something that we're going to go, you know, we need to bring the Wellness Board in on this and let them know what we're doing. I'm sure they'll support this, but it's going to take somebody with a sports background. That's all I'm going say, so the next step, Ryan, would you bring forth some information when you can.

Mr. McNaughton: I've already been in contact with some folks.

Mr. Steffey: November 1st is when we run out.

Auditor Merlo: That's fine. I've been mentioning it and you are aware that autumn is here, but that savings that we could have done back in the second quarter is chipping away so now you have to the end of the year that savings is gone.

Mr. McNaughton: I don't know that we could do layoffs because October 1st begins the busiest time of the season. That's when we are booked solid from morning till night pretty much seven days a week.

Ms. Marchese: How much money is coming in per month?

President Marino: Ryan is 100% correct. The revenue generating season for the Wellness Center begins in the fall through winter into early spring when the kids can go back outside, so Mayor, I hope you take advantage of Ryan's access to potential solutions as quickly as possible.

Auditor Merlo: The cost of contracted labor goes up.

Mr. Steffey: Even though we are getting it at a reduced rate because of the new contract because you require more hours.

Auditor Merlo: Correct. We plugged in the new rate today. It would be much worse if not for the new rate. \$2.00 and change.

Mr. DePasquale: It's almost \$3.00.

Auditor Merlo: And you're looking at about anywhere from 180 to 200 hours a week of contracted help so it's a substantial amount of money.

President Marino: Who won the contracted labor bid?

Mr. DePasquale: Labor Max.

President Marino: Andy, how's the Wastewater Treatment Plant coming?

Mr. Catanzarite: Well, it got all muddy again, but it's going along pretty good. We have at this point about 50 contractors on site. We started the last major dig. Our progress meeting was today and everything is on pace. There are a couple small issues to take care of and they have all been resolved. Again, any council person who would like, I'd let you know when our meetings are and you can see the progress. It's hard for Mr. DePasquale to get down there with his schedule. It is moving. They are starting to put (inaudible) The building should be pretty much up and out of the ground and under roof by the middle of winter. We have a lot of pipe underground yet.

Mr. Mientkiewicz: Are we still on pace to meet our completion date?

Mr. Cantanzarite: I think the summer has lagged a little bit because they had a lot of employees on other job sites and now they're all back and we do anticipate – at this point I do not see any issues going past December of 2018.

Mr. Mientkiewicz: What about change orders? Are we within our contingency budget?

Mr. Cantanzarite: Yes, we are. We do not at this point anticipate any major change order at all.

Mr. Mientkiewicz: Good.

President Marino: Andy, I notice the vac truck. I see it passing on occasion out my office window. Is it on a rotation and are we performing maintenance on sewer lines with the jet and taking care of that across town because the rainy season will soon be back upon us. There was a patch of rain here and there, but did we put in a maintenance plan now that we have this new truck?

Mr. Catanzarite: I will say it's not quite where I want it to be at. We're trying to do zones like almost through the wards, but because of the issues we have had over the last several years, we're still doing maintenance and updates of catch basin repairs in the summer. We're working with Glenn and his crew to try to get more of a scheduled routine maintenance. Our sanitary sewers seem to be in pretty good shape. Most of our issues are storms. Since it is coming on the rainy season I will let you know. I informed Board of Control this morning, one of the issues of one of our raw sewage pumps is down and a brand new pump is around \$72,000.00. Ours is lined up right now and I have a quote for \$34,000.00 and I'm fighting with the company because I think they need take about \$10,000.00 off of that due to a seal failure, but that's something I'm going have to come back to Council for additional funds.

President Marino: I would be interested periodically on an update on the progress regarding ongoing maintenance. If I heard you correctly, we don't have any issues with the sanitary, but I would be interested in an update for Council and the administration on the progress regarding the storm sewers and making sure that the ward council members are aware of what's taking place in their ward relative to ongoing maintenance because the community has asked for it and we are paying attention to these things. It would be helpful that you report that so they are aware of the rotation of that vehicle because I know the county engineer helped us out last year whenever it was that one broke and now we have a brand new one that's supposed to be state of the art.

Mr. Catanzarite: I think I have been able to keep up with all the council and their wards as far as water breaks on the water side issue, but this is something that I will address on the sewer side as well.

Mr. Pezzano: Andy, can you give the public an update on how involved you have been getting with the water breaks and who you've been meeting with?

Mr. Catanzarite: Well, the water issues have been ongoing. We've done some testing. We had a company in for our two towers – at Stevens Park, that big water tower is not ours. That belongs to MVSD. They pump water to that tower. We have a pump station next to it. We

pump water out to Deer Trail and then we have water pulled by gravity over to the twin towers on Ridge Road. (inaudible) we try to speak to one tower to the next. I have a control panel down at the waste water plant and since this has been put in, we have not nothing but issues with it for two years. We're getting false readings. We thought that the twin towers had 103 feet of water. They had 80 feet of water and basically, I know it's very hard to explain, but if your house is right next to the water tower, somebody a mile down the street in a much lower area is going to have a lot more pressure than you. It is strictly by elevation. We can have one tower and (inaudible) if we have eight towers all full, the pressure here is still the same. The number of towers does not make a difference. All that matters is the elevation in the towers. So little by little we are going through as much as we can. We've had a pretty good week this week as far as water breaks. Nothing like we have had in the past. We had a couple small leaks. We are working with MVSD. We are also working with MVSD on testing. We still have the three spots, Carnegie, Nebraska and Difford, that's part of what Kevin's working on the grants for us to try to loop those systems in. Here again, everybody knows that dead end line on a water system is worse thing in the world you can have as far as water goes. If they're looped, the water goes through the loop back and forth. Any time you have a dead end you have a tendency for scale and stuff through the system to build up. MVSD did do some changes in their plant a year ago in their processing so they are going to do some testing and this is where we talked about polyphosphate possibly being added to the water and they are negotiating with the EPA to do that. Polyphosphate will definitely help with our red water, our iron water, orange water and polyphosphate also what it does is it reacts with the scale buildup inside the pipes and adheres it back to the pipe again. We are getting some descaling. The scaling comes off. The scaling inside the pipe is very good. That's a positive thing unless you get too much. The process has changed a bit and we think it may be because of the scaling and the sluffing off and that is part of our issue with the color. Believe me, I'm probably spending half of my time now on water sites tracking stuff down. We're doing everything we can. I've been in several homes. Please bear with us as we did do some flushing. I know that has helped. Every place we go, by the way, where we have had orange water, we still pull samples, take them down and they are testing out okay. They are not -- the water doesn't look good, but it is safe.

Mr. Pezzano: Ladies and gentlemen, I just wanted to say Andy, with everything on his plate with the project and everything and the water breaks, he's doing a fantastic job with his crew and I have had meetings with him and the MVSD and he is definitely on it. We are trying to find a solution so bear with him. He has also met with our residents to explain the situation. He met with one of mine today, so he's going a great job so bear with his crew as they try to find out what the solution is. Thank you.

Mr. Mientkiewicz: Andy, speaking for the second ward on Carnegie since you put the flusher on there on the hydrant, I haven't had any calls about that.

Mr. Catanzarite: I have. I was up there the other day and one of the homes I went to just by taking the spigot off in the kitchen, when you take the aerator off, it was just plugged full of stuff that had sluffed off. I cleaned the aerator out and there has been no problem. There are several homes where we have flushed and flushed and hopefully those areas -- we have to make a decision in the next couple of weeks whether to put permanent ones in. Those systems are not -- one on Carnegie and one on Nebraska, we hooked up to the fire hydrants, they have an automatic

valve and there's a timer and right now they are set to – we have to leave the fire hydrants open. That unit controls and water. What we do is at 3:00 in the morning we open them slowly like they're supposed to be and we flush them from 20 minutes to 40 minutes, then they shut off. We do this every day in these bad areas trying to help get it figured out. We put Carnegie up to 40 minutes and since it's gone to 40 I think it's doing better. It's just going to take time to get this out of the system, but those units cannot be left out in the winter because the hydrants run above ground and they will freeze so we're looking to get a couple permanents in those bad spots. Even if we get the grant money that Kevin is going after, that will not be available until next summer.

President Marino: We certainly appreciate the County Engineer for allowing us to use those.

Mr. Catanzarite: Trumbull County has been very very cooperative and very helpful to us.

President Marino: Yes, it sure has.

Mr. Papalás: I have a question to ask and that's taking you over to the intersection of Belle Terre and Hiram, is water still running there?

Mr. DePasquale: We have a leak there. We have several leaks. We take them one at a time sometimes two a day, if we can. It is on the list. It's been leaking. We probably have five or six that we haven't gotten to.

Mr. Papalás: Are they are going for three weeks like this one?

Mr. DePasquale: Yes. Some are longer. Robbins Avenue has been even longer. Sometimes you can't get to them because we don't know where the break is. We can't chase it down the line. We want it to break that way you know exactly where it's at and we can excavate and repair it. The water leak, for instance, on Belle Terre was leaking several feet away, but that doesn't mean that is where the break is. It could be another 50 feet. You don't want to dig up 50 feet of pavement or 50 feet of yard trying to locate it. What you do is you hope it breaks because it is going to eventually and that way you know exactly where it's at and then you excavation is minimal. We do have several that we are getting to every day.

Mr. Papalás: Andy, that was quite a lesson for us all. Thank you.

Mr. McNaughton: I'm going to continue the Andy victory tour. I want to thank him for all his work. I went and toured the wastewater treatment plant a month ago. I happened to have Thursday off so I went down. It is quite a facility. There is so much science behind it, it's mind boggling and it's going to be a wonderful facility being done on time and under budget so far. Kudos. On top of all this other infrastructure issues that Andy is doing, he is overseeing one of the, if not the largest, projects in this city's history and I do want to thank you again publicly for the work that you are doing with that. If anyone has a chance to take a tour before the weather gets worse and you haven't, do it. It's a remarkable – it's a walking tour with Andy telling you everything. It is fantastic and very eye opening. The science behind it is mind boggling. I also want to thank my colleagues for working with the administration for these new policies. I know

a lot of us have spent a lot of evenings doing research and cementing ideas to put down on paper and being implemented tonight is a wonderful step for all of us for accountability, so thanks to everybody for that. Also, an unsung hero to me, I want to thank Mr. Crowley who doesn't look for such accolades, but he does. He sent all of us a note a week ago today about the work going on with Avenue and Main, the cataloguing of the homes, working with the Trumbull County land bank and again, seeing results from that grant and the average citizen helping out to make this town more livable and more pleasant to look at. So thank you and everyone else that was a part.

Mr. Steffey: I know we have been talking a lot about water, so I'm going to stay right on the water topic. I'll let you know that not only do we see the newspaper articles that have been written about the ground water over the last several weeks. Due to our looking for help from the Trumbull County Engineer, it opened up a dialogue with the Trumbull County Engineer and his expert staff. Our U.S. Senator Rob Portman actually reached out and has called and is offering some assistance. I met this afternoon with Josh Priest. He is the northeast district representative and liaison for U.S. Senator Portman. We are going to take advantage of the relationship that they have with the Trumbull County Engineer as well, but our goal is, in talking with him earlier today, it was about the water line replacement, possibly replacing 10 miles worth in that North Road area that has been beleaguered with the water breaks. We are also talking about fixing the 67 hydrants that are inoperable. These are very important to our Senator. They expressed that through his liaison today and I look forward to working with them to see if we can get federal dollars. It doesn't stop the work that Mr. Robertson is going to do. He is still going to work to get the grants, but if we can get some federal dollars to offset that and help our community get back to the infrastructure heading in the right direction, I just wanted to share with you I feel that it's a very positive move. Mr. Portman called again this week. He called us, we didn't call him, so it's a very positive sign for us and I apologize that I haven't had a chance to share this with all my colleagues, but this was on a very fast track and that's why I wanted to report this to everyone and let you know that the United States Senator is reaching out and trying to see what he can do. We'll go with this from there. I would like to just give Chief Holland the opportunity to show us the body cam that's going to be implemented with our officers. We spent some money. The model that he had at our last meeting was much bigger. This reminds you of a pager for those of you who remember, so I appreciate your hard work and I look forward to our wonderful police department having that as a resource to ensure that everybody remains safe. Thank you.

Ms. Marchese: I did want to thank Jeff for all your hard work. I know, not just myself, but the other councilmen. I really think, Mr. Mayor, that we need to get him more hours somewhere because he's constantly busy. You've got to get him up there.

Mr. Mientkiewicz: Jim, have we made any progress on those concrete restoration repairs?

Mr. DePasquale: It started yesterday.

Mr. Mientkiewicz: It started yesterday. Do you know when Sunny Estates will be done?

Mr. DePasquale: They will be repaired as important -- driveway approaches will be first, then we'll go to sidewalks. We have the ball rolling, I hired a contractor to help us out on this and we started yesterday so it should go pretty fast.

Mr. Mientkiewicz: Good. The other thing is the cell phone tower money. The money from the tower that's expected to go up behind the fire station, what are we going to do with that money? It's my --

Mr. DePasquale: I would think that would have to be put aside and invest it. That's what we talked about a month ago.

Mr. Mientkiewicz: It's my expectation, and I've said this in the past and my colleagues will agree, that we do need to put that aside and invest that and if you were at the fiscal commission meeting, we do need to have a rainy day capital improvement fund. When does that come in, do we know?

Mr. DePasquale: It could be the first of the year or a little later by time they get done with all their preliminary work and things that have to be done. It's moving fast. Any time after the first of the year. It's on them as far as how fast they move on it.

Mr. Mientkiewicz: Have we received any payment from them thus far?

Mr. DePasquale: \$1,000.00.

Mr. Mientkiewicz: We get --

Mr. DePasquale: \$1,000.00 every month, I think, right John?

Auditor Merlo: Yes.

Mr. Mientkiewicz: Okay. Where's that going?

Mr. DePasquale: That's going into --

Auditor Merlo: The general fund.

Mr. Mientkiewicz: So we're spending it?

Auditor Merlo: We have not increased revenues in the general fund. It has not been spent.

Mr. DePasquale: Actually the longer it goes, the more money we make. The longer it takes to do this, we pick up \$1,000.00 monthly. We have the \$170,000.00 locked up. That is our deal. We get \$1,000.00 a month going forward on that. It doesn't come out of the \$170,000.00.

Mr. Mientkiewicz: It doesn't come out of the \$170,000.00?

Mr. DePasquale: No, it does not.

Mr. Mientkiewicz: The last thing, Mr. Mayor, just for my own personal information, can you update council on any new hires prior to them being hired?

Mayor Scarnecchia: Certainly.

Mr. Mientkiewicz: Some sort of communication. Give us a heads up on who we're hiring and in what department.

Mayor Scarnecchia: We hired a new policeman.

Mr. Mientkiewicz: Right. That is my concern because I had to find out on Facebook today that we hired a new policeman and I had no clue.

Mayor Scarnecchia: He was just sworn in today.

Mr. Mientkiewicz: I know that and that's great.

Mr. DePasquale: You want to be notified prior?

Mr. Mientkiewicz: Yes.

Mr. Marchese: We should be notified so we don't look like idiots.

Mayor Scarnecchia: Some things get on Facebook before we even do it.

Mr. Mientkiewicz: Not only that, but these safety service hires they deserve some sort of formal swearing in so if we were to do that prior to or before or after a council meeting, I think that would be more appropriate.

Mr. Papalas: We used to do that all the time. Every community I go to does that. They introduce their firemen and police.

Mr. Mientkiewicz: I think they deserve that and it would give us council a chance to meet them.

Mayor Scarnecchia: Well, he was invited to council tonight, but he wasn't able to make it.

Mr. Mientkiewicz: Nothing against him. I'm just saying from here on out.

Mayor Scarnecchia: I agree. I think everyone in the public should know. We have two more police coming and six firemen.

President Marino: Did I hear correctly that we're going to administer civil service tests in November during your report for commission to hire new policemen and firemen? Entry level personnel?

Mayor Scarnecchia: Entry level, yes.

Mr. Pezzano: I would like to set up Safety Committee meeting and this is strictly for housing inspector Jeff Crowley and Building and Zoning Mr. Vigorito. Chief, I will set up another meeting with you guys some other time. So anytime my colleagues, what's good for you, possibly next week? Mr. Crowley, are you okay with having a meeting next week?

Mr. Crowley: Yes.

Mr. Pezzano: Is Mr. Vigorito here? Next Thursday, Mr. Vigorito, is that good for you? At 5:00.

Mr. McNaughton: If I'm not mistaken, aren't we already meeting here at 6:00 on Wednesday, right?

Mr. Pezzano: I think it's going to be a long night.

Mr. Papalas: I've spoken with Jeff and set something up. If you went to another councilman and set it up.

Mr. Pezzano: No, Mr. Papalas, for some reason building and zoning falls under me and that's why I'm setting it up.

Mr. Crowley: This is about rules and regulations. It has nothing to do with what you and I talked about.

Mr. Papalas: That's fine.

Mr. Pezzano: Next Thursday at 5:00 in the conference room.

President Marino: Okay. On Thursday, September 29, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. in the lower conference room of the city building. Please keep in mind next Wednesday, September 28, 2016 here at 6:00 p.m. we will be meeting with the Chamber of Commerce for them to do their presentation on potential economic development opportunities for the city. That meeting is open to the public. I also think there is a CIC meeting at 5:00 on that day, right?

Mr. Dull: Correct.

Mr. McNaughton: Is that here?

President Marino: Yes. The Auditor has asked to make another comment.

Auditor Merlo: Budgets on October 8th. Do you guys want me to reach out to department heads to set up those time slots for them?

Ms. Marchese: I left messages for the parks and streets and the only one I heard back from (inaudible)

President Marino: The committee chairs should be familiar with the needs of the departments that are under your committee chairmanship. Regarding the budget hearing, the way they have worked in the past, the administration schedules the hearings, either the Auditor or the Mayor and the department head will come in and make their presentation on their needs. It would be my expectation that those departments that are under your responsibility that you would have communication with, that those department heads in addition to the administration explain that there are differences between one's needs and necessities because of the clear message you all are sending regarding strategic planning, long-range planning so that is where I was coming from. The general responsibility rests with them to schedule those.

Auditor Merlo: Do you want us to schedule this?

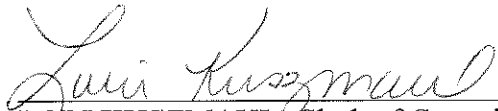
Mr. Papalas: I think you should.

Mr. Steffey: We have the conference room scheduled from 9:00 a.m. to question mark.

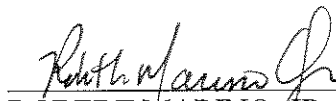
President Marino: Any other comments?

ADJOURN

It was moved by Marchese, seconded by Pezzano to adjourn the meeting.



LORI KUSZMAUL, Clerk of Council



ROBERT MARINO, JR., President of Council