

**Dennis Murray called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. after the Invocation, given by Dave Waddington, and the Pledge of Allegiance.**

**The Clerk called the roll and the following Commissioners responded: Naomi Twine, Dick Brady, Wes Poole, Dennis Murray, Greg Lockhart, Nikki Lloyd and Dave Waddington.**

**City staff present: Aaron Klein – Public Works Director, John Orzech – Police Chief, Rick Wilcox– Fire Chief, Matt Lasko – Chief Development Officer, Angela Byington – Planning Director, Stuart Hamilton – IT Manager, Don Rumbutis – IT, Brad Link – Public Services Director, Hank Solowiej – Finance Director, Justin Harris - Law Director, Eric Wobser – City Manager and Kelly Kresser– Commission Clerk.**

**Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Naomi Twine, the commission voted to approve the minutes of the November 27 meeting and suspend the formal reading. The President declared the motion passed.**

### **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

Tim Schwanger, 362 Sheffield Way, said the Shoreline Drive reconstruction is a great project (Item #3) and asked if consideration will be given to the portion of Shoreline Drive between Chesapeake Lofts and the western end. In 2005, this project was staked out but was not completed because of construction of the building. Tim Schwanger asked if the final design plans for the Jackson Street Pier (Item #4) will be approved by the City Commission before a design/build contract is entered into. The Friends of the Jackson Street Pier are still holding out hope one third of the proposed greenspace is reduced and an additional 26 short-term parking spaces at the north end can be created and said they see the area as an event stage which is not needed. They hold out hope for accommodations to keep the existing food vendors on the pier rather than finding another space downtown as they both like where they are.

Kathryn Carter, 5309 Columbus Avenue, said the Jackson Street Pier was originally called an underutilized, dirty, ugly, cracked blacktop parking lot but is now being described as a low to moderate area of slum and blight. This has become interesting on how if it does not work the way planned, wording can be changed, money moved around and change its designation for its use. The newspaper indicated “money from the city’s everyday operating budget backed by taxpayers will not provide one cent toward this effort but this includes the revolving loan fund; rather, property tax money in a special account, subsidized only by Chesapeake Loft residents would fund any and all costs. There is enough money in the account to cover project expenses.” When this all started, the city had the money and cannot understand why another \$400,000 is needed to continue this project. Using it toward a pet project seems to let 24,000 other people who live in this city down. People in Canton have told her no one they know likes reverse diagonal parking but they deal with it because they were stuck with it.

### **PRESENTATION**

Dennis Claxton, Science Lodge #50, said 2018 will be the Masons 200<sup>th</sup> year in Sandusky. Freemasonry started 300 years ago and six lodges were formed in Ohio; of these six, one of the members was James Kilbourne. His son, Hector Kilbourne, laid out the city streets in the squared compasses forming the Masons. On November 27, the Sandusky Masons hosted their installation during which a plat map of Sandusky was presented to the City of Sandusky. It is an honor to present this plat map to the city to be displayed at City Hall. Dennis Murray thanked Dennis Claxton and the lodge members for their contributions to the city and congratulated them on their 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Alex Pesta, City Architecture, said this project is focused on Shoreline Drive between Lawrence and Water Streets and is the full length of Shoreline Drive, about three quarter of one mile. The existing Bayfront connector trail has some gaps which this project will help fill and can be elevated to match other work being done. Value can be created through these types of initiatives and a conditions assessment has already been completed. The street has various stages of

disrepair with cracked asphalt. The surveys have uncovered various conditions in addition to existing railroad tracks underground and a complete reconstruction needs to be accomplished. The design and layout can solve different issues. The sidewalk on the south side averages between 5½' - 6' before encroachments which, in some cases are curbs, dumpsters, porches, stairs or electrical transformers. This plan aims to clean up these spaces. The streetscape project will formalize and enhance the area and the waterfront is an asset and should be branded as such. The stakeholder committees and the community engagement process conducted were very well attended and open houses were held for both the Jackson Street Pier and Shoreline Drive projects and it was determined both walkability and bike-ability need improvement. Three options were developed and vetted with the community with one being heavily favored. This option entails a protected, multi-purpose trail on the North side of Shoreline Drive which will be an extension of the Bayfront connector. On the south side, integrated parking is recommended. The net parking count will be very similar to existing spaces (186 spaces versus 180 spaces). Angled, back-in parking is supported heavily by communities and is prevalent in northeast Ohio. This will also allow shrinking the depth of the parking spaces and make more room for public walking or trail space. Trails have brought value to other places and the gold standard today is the Indianapolis Cultural Trail which has seen a tremendous amount of continued investment spurred by the city and a non-profit organization. There are ways to separate pedestrians and cyclists from people who want to sit and look at the water or are commuting. The Planning Commission supports this project with some guidance including elimination of the curbed concrete median and the extension of the north sidewalk where people will walk adjacent to the water. There is an 8' buffer on the north side which is paved or landscaped and the connector trail is 10½'. Utility hookups can also be installed where there are bollards in place for a festival or vendor and have worked in other areas. Simple masonry enclosures are proposed for dumpsters to be housed which will not block views of the south buildings to help shield them from view. Existing angled parking will be changed to parallel parking in some blocks and will place a nice buffer between moving traffic and pedestrian traffic. In the area where the condominium buildings at Water Street, a separate lane is proposed so vehicles no longer are pulling out into traffic. There is also a proposal to eliminate the drive to Shoreline Park which will provide a contiguous, off-street connector trail with a nautical theme.

Dick Brady asked about the above ground utilities and said he presumes it is a benefit-to-cost ratio which could not be overcome. Bonnie Teenwen with Osborn Engineering said with the existing conditions, utility lines are on the top of the pole as well as some in the middle of the poles. They looked at the possibility of burying the utilities but found although physically possible to relocate some of them, the lines at the very top are transmission lines and it is not possible to relocate them underground without a huge expense. The majority of the lines could, however, be buried. Wes Poole asked what the additional expense is to move part of the lines compared to leaving them where they are and Bonnie Teeuwen said these are simply options for consideration. From a visual perspective, lifting these from the line of sight would be better. Wes Poole asked what the buffering element will be and Alex Pesta said this could be done with a new curb or above ground planters. Wes Poole said he is concerned about how snow will be removed. Alex Pesta said the existing width of pavement is 50' and there is area for a visitor parking space behind the garages with a drive aisle for backing. A buffer is proposed for the north side and would wraparound to Water Street. Eric Wobser said the city had conversations with members of condominium association across from Shoreline Drive and they will be taking on snow removal. Aaron Klein said this is similar to the former American Red Cross property on Central Avenue where there is dedicated parking, not public parking, and is their responsibility to remove the snow. Osborn Engineering will be working with the city throughout the design process and there will be discussions about this to ensure we get the best design and setup. Eric Wobser said after walking this area, there are three sets of utility lines and smaller poles which serve them and removal will have a huge visual impact. This will all be addressed in the next phase. Dick Brady said there are seven three-phase utility transformer banks and these are what breaks up the sight lines. This is expensive, if not impossible, but hopes we can find money to get these out of the way. Wes Poole said with nautical bollards and chains, cyclists and pedestrians are trapped without access out of the sidewalk area. The sidewalks separate cars from pedestrians and chains

are not needed in between and this should be given consideration. Bicycles are being mixed with pedestrians and is not supportive of this concept and said we do not gain a thing with the chains. Wes Poole said electricity for the vendors should be on the north side because of the conflict between the businesses and the vendors to keep a separation.

Michelle Johnson, Environmental Design Group, said Landing Park is a portion of the Sandusky Bay Pathway, specifically dealing with stakeholders including the city, Cedar Fair and Erie MetroParks. This is a public/private partnership which historically is not always done well, but was a fantastic process for Sandusky. There were many site visits and this year there were historic high water levels and affected how the conceptual design was developed. There were also stakeholder meetings and interviews and conference calls to learn different perspectives and this helped shape the process. Landing Park goes from Castaway Bay to the east side of the marsh and exceeds the city limits. There are conservation areas and most of the land is owned by Cedar Fair or Erie MetroParks and there is a strong desire to create active spaces rather than passive spaces. From a funding standpoint, it was very important to everyone involved this be for bicyclists and pedestrians. Programming elements can include children's play areas, trails and boardwalks, seating, birding towers, vendors, concessions and rentals for kayaks, paddleboards and canoes. Phragmites cover a lot of the surface edge at the water and affect views and there are a few areas potentially with peeks of the water and should be celebrated. The trail is proposed to be done in three different phases. The great lakes coastal concept helped with the design process and took some evolution. Moving into the downtown and the residential areas, this can evolve while staying cohesive and looks forward to taking the next step to see what this will look like in other areas. The former runways for Griffing Airport will be a place for structures and the entire length could be developed. This place should be for residents, eventually be inviting for tourists, and a place for ecotourism to be developed as some residents feel the areas further west have not been. The upland space is being maximized and much of the existing concrete will be maintained. The lighthouse goes along with the Great Lakes coastal theme and the raised second story is proposed to be ADA accessible. It is also proposed to put a bridge over the inlet between Castaway Bay and the Quaker Steak & Lube property. ODOT is a major stakeholder and The Landing Park access drive will be combined with the Stage II Sports Force drive to ensure it is cohesive, park-like and welcoming. A canopy walk has been designed in the renderings and all is ADA accessible with views of Cedar Point, Sandusky Bay and Lake Erie and leads through the phragmites which are an invasive species and do a lot of nutrient trading. There is a fishing pier and there have also been thoughts expressed about a water taxi or a pontoon boat to get to and from Cedar Point or the downtown. Bars and restaurants came up a lot through the interview process and people want somewhere to go, especially for adults who may be here with children. There will be a complete separation between the driveway and the pathway to allow for kayak and pedestrian drop-offs. There is a hunting license and deed over the entire section of the East Bay, is controlled by ODNR and managed by Erie MetroParks so hunting platforms have been built in as there is a 99 year lease for this purpose. Dick Brady the timing of this project seems to be about 15± years and asked what can be done to accelerate this. Michelle Johnson said it is more like one to fifteen years and they are working very hard to make sure there are constantly pieces and parts moving forward. There is an upcoming grant application deadline next month with ODNR and dollars will be leveraged throughout the process. Federal dollars will not be available until 2023 or 2024 so things will need to start locally and with the state and will be strategic in planning these items. Dennis Murray said the ability to create a new waterfront park in Sandusky is something he never anticipated but this is a wonderful opportunity and is very excited about it as well as the collaboration between local governments and private business.

#### **REGULAR AGENDA**

**Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Naomi Twine, the commission voted to accept all communications. The President declared the motion passed.**

**SECOND READING****1. Submitted by Amanda McClain, Housing Manager****APPROVAL TO ACCEPT NINE PARCELS FOR LAND BANK PROGRAM**

**Budgetary Information:** The cost of these acquisitions will be approximately \$1,134 to pay for the title exams and transfer fees. The city will not collect the \$3,713.27 owed to the city in special assessments, nor will the taxing districts collect the \$23,940.20 owed in delinquent taxes. However, all or part of these costs may be recouped and reimbursed upon the sale of the parcels. As the properties are put back into tax producing status, the taxing districts will once again begin collecting real estate taxes of approximately \$7,530.72 per year.

**RESOLUTION NO. 056-17R:** It is requested a resolution be passed approving and accepting certain real property for acquisition into the land reutilization program; and declaring that this resolution shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

**Upon motion of Nikki Lloyd and second of Wes Poole, the Commission voted to approve this resolution under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the city charter. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Naomi Twine, Dick Brady, Wes Poole, Dennis Murray, Greg Lockhart, Nikki Lloyd and Dave Waddington, 7. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the resolution: Yeas: Naomi Twine, Dick Brady, Wes Poole, Dennis Murray, Greg Lockhart, Nikki Lloyd and Dave Waddington, 7. The President declared the resolution passed under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.**

**SECOND READING****2. Submitted by Arielle Blanca, Community Development Manager****CDBG FY 2017 SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT**

**Budgetary Information:** There are no funds required to implement this amendment as all funds are currently allocated to the city through the existing and past CDBG grants.

**ORDINANCE NO. 17-223:** It is requested an ordinance be passed approving a substantial amendment to the city's FY 2017 one-year Action Plan for the Community Development Block Grant program year of July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018, and authorizing and directing the City Manager to submit the amended Action Plan to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

**Upon motion of Dick Brady and second of Naomi Twine, the Commission voted to approve this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.**

*Discussion:* Wes Poole said he still finds it inappropriate to use CDBG funds for this project and sees little improvement in the lives of those who are considered low to moderate income. This would be for anyone within a one-mile walking distance of the Jackson Street Pier gives the class of people with sufficient income to make this formula work. Adjacent to the Jackson Street Pier, there are \$100,000 to \$300,000 condominiums along with a billionaire property next door (Cedar Point); likewise, throughout the corridor, the benefit does not seem to meet the spirit of the law.

**Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Naomi Twine, Dick Brady, Dennis Murray and Dave Waddington, 4. Nays: Wes Poole & Greg Lockhart, 2. Abstain: Nikki Lloyd, 1. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Naomi Twine, Dick Brady, Dennis Murray and Dave Waddington, 4. Nays: Wes Poole & Greg Lockhart, 2. Abstain: Nikki Lloyd, 1. The President declared the ordinance passed under second reading and in full accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.**

**3. Submitted by Aaron Klein, Director of Public Works****PROFESSIONAL DESIGN SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH OSBORN ENGINEERING FOR SHORELINE DRIVE RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT**

**Budgetary Information:** The total cost will initially be paid with capital funds. However, sewer and water fund dollars will be transferred to cover those costs. In addition, the city intends to

finance a portion with notes or bond proceeds from the Chesapeake TIF to pay for the debt service. The not to exceed cost for professional design services is \$436,320 and will be split as follows:

Capital fund (Street)	\$50,000.00
Sewer fund	\$74,013.00
Water fund	\$22,403.00
Capital fund (TIF proceeds)	<u>\$289,904.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$436,320.00</b>

**ORDINANCE NO. 17-224:** It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Osborn Engineering of Cleveland, Ohio, for professional design services for the Shoreline Drive rehabilitation project; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

**Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Naomi Twine, the Commission voted to approve this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.**

*Discussion:* Dennis Murray said he will abstain on this vote as he has in other matters involving Shoreline Drive in the past. Dave Waddington said he was on the commission in 2005 and at that time looked at the salt piles and other things regarding construction and the climate is different in the downtown area now. There are a lot of people living downtown, foot and vehicle traffic has increased and is looking forward to getting this project done. Wes Poole asked about the utilization of this and if it will primarily be a daytime operation and Aaron Klein said there were lights in a couple of the renderings but this will be something to consider moving through the project. There will be lighting in locations where it is appropriate. Many of the buildings also have lighting and will help to light the roadway.

**Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Naomi Twine, Dick Brady, Wes Poole, Greg Lockhart and Dave Waddington, 5. Abstain: Dennis Murray and Nikki Lloyd, 2. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Naomi Twine, Dick Brady, Wes Poole, Greg Lockhart and Dave Waddington, 5. Abstain: Dennis Murray and Nikki Lloyd, 2. The President declared the ordinance passed under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.**

**4. Submitted by Aaron Klein, Director of Public Works**

**PROFESSIONAL DESIGN SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH OSBORN ENGINEERING FOR THE JACKSON STREET PIER PROJECT**

**Budgetary Information:** The total cost will initially be paid with capital funds. However, CDBG FY 2017 sewer and water fund dollars will be transferred to cover associated costs. In addition, the city intends to finance a portion with notes or bond proceeds from the Chesapeake TIF to pay for the debt service. The not to exceed cost for professional design services is \$333,800. This will be split as follows:

CDBG FY 2017	\$153,800.00
Sewer fund	\$21,924.00
Water fund	\$1,428.00
Capital fund (TIF proceeds)	<u>\$156,648.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$333,800.00</b>

**ORDINANCE NO. 17-225:** It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Osborn Engineering of Cleveland, Ohio, for professional design services for the Jackson Street Pier rehabilitation project; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

**Upon motion of Dick Brady and second of Dave Waddington, the Commission voted to approve this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.**

*Discussion:* Aaron Klein said the city first prepared a request for qualifications and selected Osborn Engineering and next, the drawings will be taken at 40% design. A request for proposals is then taken for design/build firms. Typically, contractors will have engineers on staff and typically there will be a design engineer, subcontractors developing the proposal. These are then narrowed down to three and the top-rated firm is selected to move forward into the construction phase. This will allow three opportunities for the project to come before the commission before entering into a construction contract.

**Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Naomi Twine, Dick Brady, Wes Poole, Dennis Murray, Greg Lockhart Lloyd and Dave Waddington, 6. Abstain: Nikki Lloyd, 1. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Naomi Twine, Dick Brady, Wes Poole, Dennis Murray, Greg Lockhart and Dave Waddington, 6. Abstain: Nikki Lloyd: 1. The President declared the ordinance passed under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.**

**5. Submitted by Jane Cullen, Project Engineer**

**PROFESSIONAL DESIGN SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH DLZ OHIO, INC. FOR WEST SIDE UTILITY AND CONNECTIVITY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

**Budgetary Information:** The not to exceed cost for professional design services is \$601,133 with \$303,009 to be paid with sewer funds, \$248,124 to be paid with water funds and \$50,000 with capital projects funds (Issue 8). After construction estimates are complete, the city will seek loan opportunities through the Ohio Water Development Authority that would include reimbursement of pertinent items during design, if possible.

**ORDINANCE NO. 17-226:** It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into an agreement for professional design services with DLZ Ohio, Inc., of Cleveland, Ohio, for the west side utility and connectivity improvements project; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

**Upon motion of Naomi Twine and second of Wes Poole, the Commission voted to approve this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.**

*Discussion:* Dennis Murray said this is a very large piece of work and it has been long anticipated to do the water and sewer work. The exciting part is the direct and quick outgrowth of the neighborhood improvement planning process and the request for connectivity in the west end of town.

**Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Naomi Twine, Dick Brady, Wes Poole, Dennis Murray, Greg Lockhart, Nikki Lloyd and Dave Waddington, 7. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Naomi Twine, Dick Brady, Wes Poole, Dennis Murray, Greg Lockhart, Nikki Lloyd and Dave Waddington, 7. The President declared the ordinance passed under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.**

**6. Submitted by Jane Cullen, Project Engineer**

**PROFESSIONAL DESIGN SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH ARCADIS U.S., INC. FOR CEDAR POINT WATER MAIN IMPROVEMENTS PROJECTS**

**Budgetary Information:** The not to exceed cost for professional design services is \$82,000 to be paid with water funds. The design costs are split between the First Street area cost of \$27,000 and the high bridge cost of \$55,000.

**ORDINANCE NO. 17-227:** It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into an agreement for professional design services with Arcadis U.S., Inc. of Toledo, Ohio, for the Cedar Point water main improvement project; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

**Upon motion of Naomi Twine and second of Nikki Lloyd, the Commission voted to approve this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the city**

charter. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Naomi Twine, Dick Brady, Wes Poole, Dennis Murray, Greg Lockhart, Nikki Lloyd and Dave Waddington, 7. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Naomi Twine, Dick Brady, Wes Poole, Dennis Murray, Greg Lockhart, Nikki Lloyd and Dave Waddington, 7. The President declared the ordinance passed under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

**7. Submitted by Jane Cullen, Project Engineer**

**PROFESSIONAL DESIGN SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH JONES & HENRY ENGINEERS, LTD. FOR PIER TRACK PUMP STATION AND FARWELL PUMP STATION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

**Budgetary Information:** The not to exceed cost for professional design services is \$218,000 to be paid with sewer funds. The design costs of \$198,000 are split equally between the Pier Track pump station and the Farwell pump station. The remaining \$20,000 fee is also split equally between the two pump stations for the completion of a facility plan requirement of the Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF) loan application. City staff reviewed with Jones & Henry, Ltd. the merits of applying for an Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) loan versus a WPCLF loan. The zero percent WPCLF loan is estimated to result in an interest cost savings over the life of the loan of about one million dollars compared to an OWDA loan at the current market rate. In addition to this WPCLF loan, the city will seek appropriate reimbursement from Erie County as per the terms of the existing sewer services agreement and associated amendments.

**ORDINANCE NO. 17-228:** It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into an agreement for professional design services with Jones & Henry Engineers, Ltd., of Toledo, Ohio, for the pier track pump station and Farwell pump station improvements project; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

**Upon motion of Nikki Lloyd and second of Dave Waddington, the Commission voted to approve this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.**

*Discussion:* Dennis Murray said this is another example of getting some of our basic needs taken care of. There is equipment from the 1950's which need attention before becoming a problem and appreciates the staff is staying on top of these things. Dick Brady said tonight we are voting on passage of about \$1.7 million in design services or construction and this equates to almost \$20 million of infrastructure improvements in this community and this is a massive undertaking and the Public Works staff is up to this task. We are doing exactly what our residents are asking for us to do: improve infrastructure of this city.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Naomi Twine, Dick Brady, Wes Poole, Dennis Murray, Greg Lockhart, Nikki Lloyd and Dave Waddington, 7. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Naomi Twine, Dick Brady, Wes Poole, Dennis Murray, Greg Lockhart, Nikki Lloyd and Dave Waddington, 7. The President declared the ordinance passed under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

**8. Submitted by Jane Cullen, Project Engineer**

**SECOND REBID OF WEST MARKET STREET SEWER REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

**Budgetary Information:** The revised estimated cost of the total project including engineering, inspection, advertising and miscellaneous expenses is \$81,537.50, which will be paid with sewer funds.

**RESOLUTION NO. 057-17R:** It is requested a resolution be passed repealing Resolution #049-17R and declaring the necessity for the City of Sandusky, Ohio, to proceed with the proposed West Market Street sewer replacement project; approving the revised specifications and engineer's estimate of cost thereof; and directing the City Manager to advertise for and receive bids in relation thereto; and declaring that this resolution shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

**Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Nikki Lloyd, the Commission voted to approve this resolution under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.**

*Discussion:* Aaron Klein said this is a replacement project which has been bid twice and the second time, prices came in significantly higher than anticipated. This was because of the hurricanes in the south which damaged several storage facilities for the pipe materials and the refineries. Oil is used in the plastic piping and supply and demand is not in our favor right now for many of these underground projects.

**Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Naomi Twine, Dick Brady, Wes Poole, Dennis Murray, Greg Lockhart, Nikki Lloyd and Dave Waddington, 7. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the resolution: Yeas: Naomi Twine, Dick Brady, Wes Poole, Dennis Murray, Greg Lockhart, Nikki Lloyd and Dave Waddington, 7. The President declared the resolution passed under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.**

#### **9. Submitted by Aaron Klein, Director of Public Works**

##### **AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT GRANT APPLICATION WITH ODOT FOR SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS ALONG HEALTHY HAYES CORRIDOR**

**Budgetary Information:** The cost for the consultant to complete the application is \$1,600 and there is no cost to accept funds. Furthermore, since ODOT will contribute one hundred percent of the project costs, there will be no anticipated budgetary impact for the project, although it would still be brought to this commission for approval prior to design and construction.

**RESOLUTION NO. 058-17R:** It is requested a resolution be passed authorizing the filing of a grant application with the Ohio Department of Transportation for financial assistance through the Highway Safety Improvement program for safety related improvements on Hayes Avenue; and declaring that this Resolution shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

**Upon motion of Nikki Lloyd and second of Dave Waddington, the Commission voted to approve this resolution under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the city charter. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Naomi Twine, Dick Brady, Wes Poole, Dennis Murray, Greg Lockhart, Nikki Lloyd and Dave Waddington, 7. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the resolution: Yeas: Naomi Twine, Dick Brady, Wes Poole, Dennis Murray, Greg Lockhart, Nikki Lloyd and Dave Waddington, 7. The President declared the resolution passed under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.**

##### **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

- **Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Naomi Twine, the commission voted to accept a donation of framing for a Proclamation (\$95 value) on behalf of the ADA Advisory Board from Jeff Berquist. The President declared the motion passed.**
- **Upon motion of Nikki Lloyd and second of Wes Poole, the commission voted to accept a donation of TruGreen fertilization for Facer Park (a value of \$115.29) from Jeff and Lauralee Krabill. The President declared the motion passed.**
- **The city will be rolling out a 2018 wellness program for city employees. The 2017 program identified weight management, cholesterol, diabetes, nicotine use and lack of primary health care providers as the biggest concern. In 2018, the program will assist city employees in these areas with targeted programs as well as continuing the baseline determination of the wellness of our employees.**
- **Sandusky Police Officers are permitted to continue sporting their beards for the month of December. They were required to donate to a local charity in order to participate and a total of \$690 was presented to the OHgo organization on December 1.**



- Sandusky **Police Officers will be teaming up with Chili's restaurant and other law enforcement and fire department personnel** on December 18 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. to assist waitresses with serving patrons. Tips from the evening will be donated to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital.
- A **dueling bell ringing competition** will take place on December 23 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Kroger. Members of the Police and Fire Departments will be ringing the red kettle bells for the Salvation Army to see who can raise the most money in their respective kettles.
- The final **Audit/Finance Committee meeting** of the year is this Friday, December 15, 2017 at 7:45 a.m.
- The city highly recommends property owners of dwellings expected to remain vacant and unoccupied during the winter months **have their water turned off**. This will help prevent your water lines from freezing and breaking which would lead to costly repairs for the property owner. The Customer Accounting Office number is 419.627.5893.
- **Water and sewer rates will increase** with the January, 2018, bill. Information regarding the annual rate increases through 2021 are available on the city's website.
- The Division of Streets and Utilities is currently performing the last round of **leaf collection**, as scheduled for each zone, weather permitting. Use of new equipment has effectively improved efficiency and service in 2017. Residents who miss their scheduled pick-up or have additional leaves for disposal are reminded that there is a leaf drop-off area near the Marquette Drive entrance to the City Service Center seven days a week until December 31. Leaves must be placed in paper bags for drop-off. We will have to review dates on the fly if snow accumulates so please be patient.
- With winter weather upon us, the Division of Streets and Utilities has been reviewing past **snow plowing operations** and is working to aggressively deal with snow issues.
- **Upon motion of Dick Brady and second of Naomi Twine, the commission voted to extend the time for hearing an appeal regarding the property located at 417 Columbus Avenue (beyond 30 days) until January, 2018.**

Eric Wobser said on November 21, the City Commission office received an appeal from the **Sandusky Library and Follett House Museum in regards to the Landmarks Commission decision** pertaining to the demolition of a building located at 417 Columbus Avenue. On November 15, the Landmarks Commission rendered a tie vote on the matter and the application was denied. The applicant has requested that appeal not be considered by the City Commission within thirty days but instead within the month January 2018.

**The President declared the motion passed.**

- For the CHIP PY2017, **the Office of Community Development has been able to allocate \$1.4 million of Ohio Housing Trust Funds to the Community Housing Impact and Preservation Program**. The City of Sandusky partnered with Erie County, City of Huron and City of Vermilion to complete the application. The City of Sandusky's allocation is \$250,000. Tim King, Senior Planner with the Erie Regional Planning Commission, is the main contact for the program and will be able to answer any questions related to the application process. Mr. King can be contacted at 419.627.7524.

- The regular **Planning Commission meeting** scheduled for December 20 has been cancelled.
- The regular **Board of Zoning Appeals meeting** will be held Thursday December 21 at 4:30 p.m. in the first floor conference room.
- The **ice rink located at Wightman-Weiber Park** has been filled with water. We ask that residents be patient and wait until the rink is completely frozen before skating.
- The **Foxborough Park play equipment installation** has been put on hold until the spring.
- The **city greenhouse is growing some natural grasses, known as little blue stem, and will be planting at Lions Park shoreline** to try and help with erosion control. This process has helped on other city parks and also helps with geese control. The plantings at Lions Park will take place this spring.
- The city's Recreation and Planning Departments have been encouraged to submit a full application for the FY2019 round of Coastal Management Assistance Grant Program funding. Full applications are due January 5, 2018. **The Paddle Sandusky project would plan/design/implement public access for canoeing, kayaking, adaptive sailing and stand up paddle boarding** at several locations along Sandusky's bayfront. The city submitted a \$125,000 project pre-proposal in October with half of the funds coming from city funds as well as public/private partnership funds with local businesses and clubs. The city was contacted on December 4 and encouraged to submit the full application. Awarded grants will be announced in late May, 2018. Projects begin in July, 2018 and completed 12 - 18 months later.
- The Recreation Department is accepting applications for the fulltime position of **Youth Program Supervisor**. This position will be responsible for directing, planning and coordinating youth programs and activities.
- Dick Brady said there has been an opportunity in front of us for a while and hopes the commission sees fit to give the City Manager direction to post the position of Housing Coordinator for our neighborhoods. This has been budgeted for 2018 and is an idea which came through a specific person who has been a fervent community activist, Mark Norman. He is an advocate of improving our neighborhoods and has doggedly spent time with most of the commissioners about this issue. It is collectively an idea whose time has come. The opportunities we have to improve housing in our neighborhoods and to add infill housing will never get better or be more of a need than it is right now and is optimistic this will be taken as an opportunity to post this job and move forward with the idea. Eric Wobser said this position would serve the city well and thinks Matt Lasko, who oversees housing initiatives, has done an amazing job of scaling up programs ranging from down payment assistance to exterior grant repair to the administration of the county land bank. As we look at even bigger and better opportunities made possible by a strengthened housing market and the outreach work being done by Talon Flohr, we see an opportunity to take this to scale. Examples of things which could potentially be coming up this year include the creation of a residential tax abatement program for rehab and new construction housing, the administration of this program will be tedious and take time. We look to bring things like the Cold Creek development back to market in partnership with the housing development there and are seriously looking at ways we can bring assistance through rehabbed housing or new construction housing into outside neighborhoods surrounding Churchwell Park and are just a few examples. We have also had very promising conversations with the Home Builders Association about how to stimulate infill housing on blocks throughout the city. This is all in addition to the significant work taking place in housing and economic development, code enforce-

ment and land bank. This would be a position we believe could encourage home ownership and stimulate continued rehabs and new construction housing throughout the city and is well timed and will be well received and will bring this to the commission with the 2018 budget. Dennis Murray said this is something they have looked at for a long time and senses in major parts of the administration we are running out of bandwidth as there is a lot going on right now. As long as the dollars are available in the budget, there is no place more important to spend money than in making sure the neighborhoods, which make up the city, received the support they need. Wes Poole said when this is made official, he would like to have a presentation made indicating what the person in this position will do, what the measurements are and what the expectations are. Eric Wobser said this will be part of the budget process.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

None.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Upon motion of Dick Brady and second of Dave Waddington, the commission voted to hold an executive session regarding pending litigation. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Naomi Twine, Dick Brady, Wes Poole, Dennis Murray, Greg Lockhart, Nikki Lloyd and Dave Waddington, 7. The President declared the motion passed.**

### **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

Robert Smith, 4707 Venice Road, asked if Stone Street can be made a one-way street. Justin Harris said this requires a petition process with those affected having input as well as public input and can get information to Robert Smith.

Susan Zeier, Snow Court, said Dennis Murray recently provided her with information about Senator Sherrod Brown and this has been extremely helpful to her and her family. Susan Zeier said her son-in-law, Heath, is an active duty Ohio Army National Guard medic is currently not deployable since being diagnosed with an extremely rare lung cancer and a rare mucous membrane autoimmune disease. He served a deployment to Kosovo and has been serving his country in a military capacity for fourteen years. After consulting with 20 fellow oncologists, no positive course of treatment could be recommended and at age 35, he was advised to get his affairs and paperwork in order to prepare for the end of his life. This soldier should be looking forward to taking his beautiful daughter to her first day of kindergarten next fall instead of planning his own funeral. After diagnosis, Heath was contacted about burn pits in Iraq where tons of toxic waste has been burned daily and he had been in close proximity to them during his tour. The horror worsened when the family learned the Department of Defense knew about this while he was still deployed there and tests ordered by Air Force Bioenvironmental Engineer Lt. Colonel Darren Curtis deemed the burn pit area tested the worse environmental disaster he had ever been associated with; there was a danger for acute and serious chronic health hazards. The Army immediately classified the report and continued using the toxic burn pits doing their own illegitimate testing two years later showing there was no danger. A Halliburton subsidiary, Kellogg, Brown & Root, was contracted to build these incinerators, which they neglected to do, and the Department of Defense turned a blind eye. The contract also included an indemnification clause whereas any lawsuit compensation awarded or fines assessed are to be reimbursed by our government. A class action lawsuit was dismissed last July on grounds that the VA is already compensating the afflicted veterans which is not true. British bases hired Iraqi contractors to build and run incinerators on their bases and they do not have over 110,000 poisoned and sick veterans today and the Department of Defense denies anything toxic was burned. Heath is dying as a result of serving his country and when the Middle East War Memorial is built, his name will not be included even though he will indeed be a casualty of the Iraq War. He will not be awarded a purple heart and he will not be acknowledged as dying for his country. The military could and should have taken measures to keep Heath safe but instead, continued to poison him after being advised by a bioenvironmental engineer in the Airforce that soldiers' lives were in danger due to the toxic emissions from open air combustion pits. Letters have been sent to Senator Brown and

Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur asking for a hearing with the Veterans Administration about this issue. Dennis Murray said she (Susan) and other families who have been similarly impacted have shown light on what is a modern agent orange. It took a long time for this to be recognized and for these soldiers to have their sacrifices recognized and thanked her for her advocacy and said he is very sorry her family is dealing with this tragedy. Dennis Murray said they are in good hands with Senator Brown and said they will continue to pursue this.

Albert Dantzler, 2042 Rohde Street, said he received a letter from the Tree Commission indicating the trees next to his home look good and are an asset to the city but the cleanup is being done by him, not them. He would like all of the small limbs cut off and the big limbs left so the sticks and acorns do not fall from the tree and need to be raked or picked up. Every time the lawn is mowed, he has to remove the blades from the mower and have them sharpened and cannot understand the city can dig up and plant trees, but cannot trim up this one tree. Dennis Murray said at the last meeting, it was established the tree had been trimmed twice and understands he (Albert) disagrees with this.

Kathryn Carter, 5309 Columbus Avenue, said if this is a pin oak tree, it will constantly drop branches and cannot get rid of them unless the tree is removed. Regarding the Shoreline Drive project, the design shows the first block of Jackson Street narrowed and said delivery trucks use this street. It seems unnecessary to narrow this one block as well as the first block of Wayne Street. Kathryn Carter said the chains look nice, but they leave people feeling blocked in. Huron just want through ha major overhaul and they zigzagged their curbs in and out and people have a heck of a time backing out of these spaces and finally removed them and designated them with painted lines. Sandusky should paint these on Shoreline Drive instead and would be easier for the people in the condominiums and for snow plowing. It has been stated the views to Sandusky Bay should be saved but putting trees at Schade-Mylander Plaza does not do this, it blocks them. If the Jackson Street Pier is being designated as a slum area, it lowers Nikki Lloyd's property and also Chesapeake Lofts. The newspaper stated officials will offset any loss of parking from added greenspace and other amenities on the Pier by creating a nearby long-term parking lot for tourists and wondered where this is. Wes Poole said most people are in favor of improving the city's waterfront but are trying to avoid the kind of design flaws which Huron just experienced. The five foot bike lane is a single lane and is not spaced for two-way traffic; moving forward, recognize mixing pedestrian traffic with bicycles is a bad idea.

Tim Schwanger, 362 Sheffield Way, asked if there is a plan in place for removing stumps when trees are removed. Recently, some were removed near Huron Park and the stumps remain in the right-of-way. Brad Link said the city has a stump grinder and have a backlog for removals, especially for those in particular those left in parks or residential areas. Wes Poole recommends hiring small businesses to remove some of these rather than dragging them out for years and years as we do not have the manpower to keep up. Dennis Murray said this seems like it makes sense to think about this with the next tree removal contract and specifically set aside money for stump removals. Brad Link said in the city's contract, the company hired also must remove the stump, replace the dirt and plant grass seed and would be looked at separately.

**At 7:12 p.m., the President announced a recess of the regular session. At 7:15 p.m., the commission went into executive session. At 7:29 p.m., the commission returned to open session and the President announced the meeting was adjourned.**

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Kelly L. Kresser, CMC  
Commission Clerk

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Dennis E. Murray, Jr.  
President of the City Commission