

Dennis Murray called the meeting to order at 3 p.m. after the Invocation, given by Dick Brady, and the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Naomi Twine, the commission voted to excuse Wes Poole. The President declared the motion passed.

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, Brad Link - Public Service Director, Stuart Hamilton – IT Manager, Don Rumbutis – IT, 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 December 11 meeting and suspend the formal reading. The President declared the motion passed.

OATH OF OFFICE

Justin Harris asked Commissioner Brady to raise his right hand and repeat the following:

“I, Richard Brady, do solemnly swear that I will support, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States and the State of Ohio and the Charter and Ordinances of the City of Sandusky; that I will honestly, faithfully and impartially discharge the duties of my office as a City Commissioner and not be influenced by any consideration except that of merit and fitness in the appointment or discharge of employees; that I am currently qualified to hold the office and will maintain all of the qualifications throughout my term in office in compliance with Sections 4, 6 and 43 of the city Charter, so help me God.”

Dennis Murray, Sr., asked Commissioner Dennis Murray, Jr., to raise his right hand and repeat the following:

“I, Dennis E. Murray, Jr., do solemnly swear that I will support, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States and the State of Ohio and the Charter and Ordinances of the City of Sandusky; that I will honestly, faithfully and impartially discharge the duties of my office as a City Commissioner and not be influenced by any consideration except that of merit and fitness in the appointment or discharge of employees; that I am currently qualified to hold the office and will maintain all of the qualifications throughout my term in office in compliance with Sections 4, 6 and 43 of the city Charter, so help me God.”

Justin Harris asked Commissioner Twine to raise her right hand and repeat the following:

“I, Naomi Twine, do solemnly swear that I will support, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States and the State of Ohio and the Charter and Ordinances of the City of Sandusky; that I will honestly, faithfully and impartially discharge the duties of my office as a City Commissioner and not be influenced by any consideration except that of merit and fitness in the appointment or discharge of employees; that I am currently qualified to hold the office and will maintain all of the qualifications throughout my term in office in compliance with Sections 4, 6 and 43 of the city Charter, so help me God.”

ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION

Dennis Murray asked if there were nominations for the office of President of the City Commission. Dick Brady nominated Dennis Murray. There being no further nominations from the floor, Dennis Murray declared the nominations closed and thanked the commissioners for their faith in him.

Dennis Murray asked if there were **nominations for the office of Vice President of the City Commission**. Dave Waddington nominated Dick Brady. There being no further nominations from the floor, Dennis Murray declared the nominations closed and said Dick Brady will continue to serve as Vice President of the Commission.

Dennis Murray said as we close out 2017 and look forward to Sandusky's Bicentennial year, he would like to express gratitude to several people. To the Police Officers and Fire Fighters who demonstrate bravery and grit every day, thanks for keeping us safe. To the skilled people who run our water and water treatment plants, thank you for keeping us and our environment healthy, and for providing Ohio's best tasting and award-winning water. To the men and women who see to it our parks are the best and most beautiful they can be with the resources we provide, thank you for making Sandusky beautiful and thank you to the Recreation Department for making it fun. To the Street and Public Works Departments, thank you for keeping our streets paved and clear, and for the work you are doing to recover from many years of disinvestment; people are noticing. To our Planning and Development offices, thank you for guiding work and investment to make Sandusky a more beautiful city. A special shout-out to our Code Enforcement Officers. Although this office was long neglected in bad times, your work, house by house and block by block is making Sandusky a safer place to live, a safer place to invest in a home and it is also beautifying Sandusky. To our Engineering Department, thank you for meticulous planning and execution. We can have all the grandiose plans in the world, but nothing is accomplished without the skills and work to make it happen. To our business partners large and small, thank you for your investment and faith in Sandusky. The absolute best solution to all of our problems is job creation and we are seeing real progress in our area. To our partners in other local governments and the non-profit world, thank you for your collaboration and investments. It is only by working together, respecting each other's visions and constructively solving our issues the larger region can move forward. To the Sandusky City Schools, thank you for educating our most precious resource and working every day to improve education in our community and providing educational opportunities that are unique in Erie County. To the members of the Bicentennial Commission, thank you for your hard work and imagination in preparing Sandusky to celebrate our great city and recall our heritage. To everyone around this table, thank you for your faithful advice to us and for your service to Sandusky. To my colleagues on the commission, thank you for the opportunity to play a leadership role in this body and great city. Most importantly, thank you to the residents of Sandusky for your presence, for your investment in our city, for the cool factor Sandusky's unique culture brings to our city and region, for your excitement in our city and for your essential financial support without which so much was unattainable for so long. Today we are armed with an outstanding plan, the finest group of employees this city has ever known, adequate funding and public support. Poised at the edge of our Bicentennial year, we are also poised to achieve great things as a community. On behalf of the commission, we wish all of you a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays, and may you and Sandusky enjoy a happy, prosperous and exciting Bicentennial New Year.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Chris Parthemore, 111 East Madison Street, and representing the Sandusky State Theatre, said the arts create stronger communities and supports the creation of a public Arts & Culture Commission (Item #2). Arts can be a cornerstone of tourism and the economy. The State Theatre recently had a mural painted on the back of the theatre which is the first piece of public art in downtown Sandusky. This was a hard process to go through and took a lot more than it should have to pass, but since completed, it has had a great impact. People have been coming to take wedding pictures, prom photos and tourists taking selfies. It is creating a social media presence and without this art, there would have been a hard void to fill. The creation of the Arts & Culture Commission will make it easier for public art to be created in the future. Communities with a strong arts and culture aspect tend to have higher civic engagement, more social cohesion with lower poverty rates and there is not a down side to investing in arts. On behalf of the State Theatre, Chris Parthemore said he encourages passage of this legislation.

Mike Zuilhof, 243 East Market Street, said he is Chairman of the Planning Commission and said it is important and the legislation for creating the Arts & Culture Commission was well thought out. Public art can sometimes get very messy as everyone has an opinion, especially when it is being placed in a public space. A well-chosen membership is important and the qualifications for appointment need to be a bit stronger and will provide a draft of additional qualifications for consideration. The city has funding and needs more public art and supports passage. In some ways, Sandusky is settling less and demanding more excellence and this is a very positive thing. The city could be worse off with a bad commission because this could lead to all kinds of problems; written qualifications are no guarantee about membership, but a lot of people in the community would be well served in this capacity and are willing to do so.

PUBLIC HEARING

The President declared the Public Hearing open regarding the proposed rezoning of eight parcels fronting Rockwell Street, Hayes Avenue and Pierce Street.

Casey Sparks, Chief Planner, said the applicant is Firelands Regional Medical Center (FRMC) and they have applied for a proposed zoning amendment for several parcels. This zone amendment is for parcels which are currently zoned as single-family and residential business. The applicant is proposing to rezone to public facilities. FRMC is proposing this for the creation of a parking site and the site plan is estimated to include about 147 parking spaces to serve the VA proposed to be located at their South Campus occupying about 12,000 square feet. The city's Bicentennial vision and Comprehensive Plan call for the creation of the Eds & Meds Corridor and FRMC has been active in purchasing property to continue this vision and staff recommends approval of the rezoning.

Rob Moore, General Counsel for Firelands Regional Medical Center, said they have been working with the local VA clinic for almost two years which is currently located at the Ohio Veterans Home in Perkins Township. The State made a decision not to pursue working with the VA and this presented an opportunity for FRMC to submit a bid and are proceeding with their plan. This will be built out on the second floor of the South Campus and will have providers, nurse practitioners and nurses for a staff of up to about 25 – 30 persons. One of the conditions is a parking expansion including spaces for handicapped individuals. One of the neighbors, Mr. Fox, is located across the street and has not accepted any offers for purchasing his home. He likes being their neighbor, is very content and feels secure, and when the time comes, he would be happy to talk about relocating. There is an opportunity for ancillary services which are currently in the Wade Park Campus near Cleveland.

Dennis Murray said this is a wonderful Christmas gift for the city in terms of the additional jobs and the city is delighted about this expansion and the additional investment and thanked FRMC for what they are doing for the community.

There being no further comments, the President declared the Public Hearing closed.

PRESENTATION

Greg Voltz, Assistant Planner, said the creation of a public Arts & Culture Commission was announced at the State of the City address in 2017 and in the destination city section of the strategic plan, an entire page is dedicated toward arts and culture. The city has many great partners including the State Theatre, the Maritime Museum, the Merry Go Round Museum, the Sandusky Cultural Center, Harlequins Theatre, Sandusky Library and Great Lakes Visual & Performing Arts Academy. As a city, we can do one more thing to make an even greater impact on the arts by creating our own public Arts & Culture Commission. Public art is any media which has been placed in an executed with the intention of being staged in the physical public domain, usually outside or in an enclosed public space and accessible to all. There are social benefits and it has been found engaging in creative activity or simply attending some kind of artistic event appears to improve physical health. This could be in part due to its ability to relieve stress. The arts engagement widens and strengthens social bonds, and creates civic dialogue. They can

sometimes be a catalyst for liberating a stuck idea or dialogue and mobilizing different players or moving people to take up an issue. Public art enhances public spaces; placemaking is the art and science of developing public spaces such as parks, libraries and public buildings which attract people and build community by bringing people together and creating a local identity. It can encourage entrepreneurship, foster innovation and nurture humanity, and will attract attention to the city and enhance a smaller, intimate public space which otherwise may be under-utilized and can create a unique destination in a park or other area longing for a perk-up. It also increases public appreciation for art, connects artists with the community as it has a public process brought in to ensure the art is appropriate for the space and something local residents will enjoy. The economic benefits are the most important as arts attract residents and business. The density and prevalence of arts may play a role in attracting residents or businesses to relocate or locate to a community by improving its image and making it more appealing. This is especially true for attracting highly skilled, high wage residents who will have a large economic impact. Businesses, especially those who employ highly trained global personal may consider the presence of art venues when making location decision. High concentrations of artists or high-skilled workers may produce a conglomeration effect where businesses, especially those in fast-growing, creative industries are drawn to an area because of the availability of creative talent and/or high skilled workers. The arts attract investments by improving a community's image; people may feel more confident about investing in an area which they feel might be up-and-coming because of the presence of the arts. Banks may be more likely to lend to a business in an area perceived as more secure and stable. The art industry generates \$133.25 billion of economic activity which supports 4.13 million full-time jobs and generates \$86.68 billion in household income. It also generates \$22.3 billion in revenue to local, state and federal governments every year, a yield well beyond their former billion dollars of arts allocation; this means a 450% return on investment. These numbers occurred in 2010 at the heart of the great recession and a good case study in Belleville, Illinois, which began a sculptural art event program. This program has grown over the course of the years and Belleville is now a nationally recognized city for the arts. This has left 42 sculptures in the city and attracts hundreds of artists who could be local or out of towners who interact with locals and visit the schools. Since 2002 this event and program has attracted \$30.3 million in spending and hundreds of thousands of visitors. This is just a small example of the economic impact of a local community. The percent for Sandusky's public art program will create a public Arts & Culture Commission, will dedicate funds for public art and will also require the creation and maintenance of a public art Master Plan. There are examples of similar pieces of legislation throughout Ohio including Sylvania Township, Centerville, Toledo, Cleveland, Columbus, Kent and the State of Ohio. The public Arts & Culture Commission will be made up of nine members who are dedicated and educated in the arts and will serve as stewards of the money dedicated. Work and projects will go through them for approval and they will help create guidelines and processes through the public art Master Plan moving forward. Five members will be appointed by the City Commission and four by the City Manager. There will be one student representative, one city staff member and one City commissioner to act as ex-officio members. The acquisition fund will be funded through the general fund, not admissions tax dollars; however, one percent of the total admissions taxes received from the previous year will be used to calculate the budget for the committee. For example, in the year 2016, the city received \$4.3 million in admissions tax revenue which would create a line item budget for public art in the amount of \$43,000. Funds may be pooled and aggregated over a few years if project costs deem it necessary and funds can be used for maintenance and curation. It will create a public art Master Plan to assist in the formation of the commission including desired qualifications to serve. Opportunities will be identified for the whole city for art in the public realm as a way to improve the community. It will identify opportunities throughout the whole city for performing arts including live music, maps identifying locations of potential artwork and other art opportunities. It will help set public art policies, will identify potential funding sources beyond the acquisition fund for the care and creation of public art and performing arts. It will develop action sets for public art and long-term initiatives. Funding options will be identified for temporary public artworks and permanent artworks. We should think about this with the mindset of the beginning of a semester worth of art classes and education. We will learn new things about our city and about each other. We will discover and rediscover beautiful places in Sandusky and think of new and exciting ways to make

them even better. We will disagree and discuss provocative ideas to move dialogue forward about what kind of city we truly want. There will be projects, assignments, artworks and more completed and started during this process; in the end, we will develop a plan of action to move the arts forward in Sandusky and the Firelands region as a whole. Please help to inspire and bring a sense of wonder for young and old through a commitment to arts and culture in the City of Sandusky.

REGULAR AGENDA

Dennis Murray said Item #4 pertaining to uncollectible debts will be removed from tonight's Agenda and considered at a future meeting.

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

SECTION 13

1. Submitted by Casey Sparks, Chief Planner

AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING MAP

Budgetary Information: There is no impact to the general fund.

ORDINANCE NO. 17-229: It is requested an ordinance be passed amending the official zone map of the City of Sandusky to rezone seven parcels from single family residential district (R1-40) and one parcel from residential business district (RRB) to public facility district (PF); and declaring that this ordinance shall take effect under suspension of the rules as contained in and in accordance with Section 13 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 13 of the city charter.

Discussion: Dick Brady said he views this as a huge win for the city and said our largest employer has an opportunity to expand their footprint and this means more employees and a safer neighborhood. The only concern is the one isolated neighbor and this was explained very eloquently as he is not adversarial, but when ready, this area will also become parking and appreciates the efforts of the hospital to expand their services within the city.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Naomi Twine, Dennis Murray, Dave Waddington and Dick Brady, 6. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Naomi Twine, Dennis Murray, Dave Waddington and Dick Brady, 6. The President declared the ordinance passed under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 13 of the city charter.

SECTION 13

2. Submitted by Greg Voltz, Assistant Planner

CREATION OF PUBLIC ARTS & CULTURE COMMISSION

Budgetary Information: There is no direct budgetary impact related to the creation of the Public Arts and Culture Commission. The Public and Cultural Art & Acquisition Fund reference in the proposed Chapter 187 shall be funded on an annual basis with the use of general funds, not admission tax dollars. One percent of the total admissions tax received from the previous year will be used to calculate the budget for the Public Arts & Culture Commission.

PASSED AT FIRST READING: It is requested an ordinance be passed amending Part One (Administrative Code), Title Seven (Boards and Commissions), by the addition of Chapter 187 (Public Arts & Culture Commission) of the codified ordinances, in the manner and way specifically set forth hereinbelow; and declaring that this ordinance shall take effect at first reading.

Upon motion of Naomi Twine and second of Nikki Lloyd, the Commission voted to approve this ordinance at first reading.

Discussion: Dennis Murray said there are few investments he can see the city making which would have a greater return and this promises a 450 percent annual return on investment and is not something which will be found with too many others. This will unfold slowly with very modest funding and we have talked about the opportunity to use this as match funding for grants. A community willing to put skin in the game will find very active, interested and enthusiastic partners in many different places and looks forward to public comment as this is something very new for the city. Dennis Murray said he appreciates the opportunity slow this down a bit and take in additional public comments.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Naomi Twine, Dennis Murray, Dave Waddington and Dick Brady, 6. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Naomi Twine, Dennis Murray, Dave Waddington and Dick Brady, 6. The President declared the ordinance passed at first reading.

3. Submitted by Angela Byington, Planning Director

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN GROUP FOR SANDUSKY NEIGHBORHOOD INITIATIVE – IMPLEMENTATION PROJECTS

Budgetary Information: The proposed agreement with Environmental Design Group for professional services is not to exceed \$30,000 and will be paid from the Neighborhood Initiative account.

ORDINANCE NO. 17-230: It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into an agreement for professional services with Environmental Design Group, LLC, of Cleveland, Ohio, for the Sandusky Neighborhood Initiative – implementation projects; 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 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: Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Naomi Twine, Dennis Murray, Dave Waddington and Dick Brady, 6. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Naomi Twine, Dennis Murray, Dave Waddington and Dick Brady, 6. 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 Arielle Blanca, Community Development Manager**~~

~~**WRITE-OFF OF UNCOLLECTIBLE DEBT**~~

~~**Budgetary Information:** There is no impact on the city's general fund.~~

~~**RESOLUTION NO.** It is requested a resolution be passed authorizing the write-off of uncollectible debt in the amount of \$308,689.40; and declaring that this resolution shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.~~

5. Submitted by Aaron Klein, Director of Public Works

ENCROACHMENT LICENSE FOR 1109 WARREN STREET

Budgetary Information: There is no budgetary impact with this item. Derrick Moore of Derrick's Mobile Diner, LLC is responsible for recording fees to the Erie County Recorder's Office.

ORDINANCE NO. 17-231: It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing the City Manager to enter into a license agreement with Derrick's Mobile Diner, LLC, to provide for the use of a certain portion of the city's rights-of-way, as described in the grant of a license for encroachment, for purposes of installing signage; 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 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 sign will extend overhead but not upon the sidewalk area.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Naomi Twine, Dennis Murray and Dave Waddington, 5. Abstain: Dick Brady, 1. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Naomi Twine, Dennis Murray and Dave Waddington, 5. Abstain: Dick Brady, 1. 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 Aaron Klein, Director of Public Works

ENCROACHMENT LICENSE FOR 702 WEST MONROE STREET

Budgetary Information: There is no budgetary impact with this item. Omeca, Inc. is responsible for recording fees to the Erie County Recorder's Office.

ORDINANCE NO. 17-232: It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing the City Manager to enter into a license agreement with Omeca, Inc. d.b.a. Cameo Pizza, to provide for the use of a certain portion of the city's rights-of-way, as described in the grant of a license for encroachment, for purposes of installing an emergency stairway; 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 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. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Naomi Twine, Dennis Murray, Dave Waddington and Dick Brady, 6. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Naomi Twine, Dennis Murray, Dave Waddington and Dick Brady, 6. 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 Hank Solowiej, Finance Director

TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR 2018

Budgetary Information: This action will establish a budget for operations until the annual appropriations can be approved after the second Monday in January, 2018. The city charter prohibits the city from enacting the 2018 budget before January 8, 2018.

ORDINANCE NO. 17-233: It is requested an ordinance be passed to make temporary appropriations for the months of January, February and March, 2018 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: Hank Solowiej said Ohio law requires the city to have a budget in place prior to the start of the New Year and is a temporary budget to meet this compliance requirement. This will give us the ability to pay bills, debt service and make payroll until the actual budget is passed (by the end of March). Dennis Murray said the policy for the final budget has yet to be shaped by the commission and asked when they will see these recommendations. Hank Solowiej said the last two years this has been presented at the second meeting in February and approved in March. Eric Wobser said a good draft of the budget is in place and will be refined in the next month or two and we are on track to present this in February or early March.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Naomi Twine, Dennis Murray, Dave Waddington and Dick Brady, 6. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Naomi Twine, Dennis Murray, Dave Waddington and Dick Brady, 6. 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 Hank Solowiej, Finance Director

TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO PAYROLL STABILIZATION FUND

Budgetary Information: The agenda deadline occurs before the amount can be determined. The resolution, along with the amount, will be available at the meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 059-17R: It is requested a resolution be passed authorizing the transfer of funds from the general fund to the payroll stabilization fund; and declaring that this resolution 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 resolution under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: Hank Solowiej said this fund was set up many years ago as a way to help alleviate the impact retirement payouts have on the operating budgets. Historically, funding is included in the operating budgets for a retiring employee which impacted the ability to fill the position again if the payout was significant. By setting money aside in this fund, we have a mechanism to build up reserves and make these termination payouts without affecting the operating budgets as much. We started off with a \$315,000 balance and used \$180,000 in 2017 which left \$480,000 going into 2018. Dick Brady asked if members of the Audit/Finance Committee are onboard with this and Hank Solowiej indicated they are supportive. Dennis Murray said this has been a good thing as we have spent many years maintaining our budget by cutting employees which meant we had a progressively older workforce getting closer and closer to retirement. With the dynamics the city has gone through, we have been placed in the current position and it is forward thinking to ensure there are adequate funds here. If this money is not needed, we always have the option to pull back funding or decrease the amount in future years.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Naomi Twine, Dennis Murray, Dave Waddington and Dick Brady, 6. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the resolution: Yeas: Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Naomi Twine, Dennis Murray, Dave Waddington and Dick Brady, 6. 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 Hank Solowiej, Finance Director
AMENDMENT #8 TO GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS**

Budgetary Information: This action will cover anticipated expenditures through December 31, 2017. The agenda deadline occurs before the final payroll costs can be determined. The amendment needs to cover final payroll and other projected costs through December 31, 2017. The ordinance will be available at the meeting.

ORDINANCE NO. 17-234: It is requested an ordinance be passed adopting amendment No. 8 to Ordinance No. 17-064 passed by this city commission on March 27, 2017, making general appropriations for the fiscal year 2017; and declaring that this ordinance take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Upon motion of Nikki Lloyd 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: Hank Solowiej said this is the end of year cleanup to reduce any appropriations and this amounts to a large reduction.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Naomi Twine, Dennis Murray, Dave Waddington and Dick Brady, 6. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Naomi Twine, Dennis Murray, Dave Waddington and Dick Brady, 6. The President declared the ordinance 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 Nikki Lloyd, the commission voted to accept a donation of \$1,500 worth of toys from Amy and Rich Doughty to be

distributed to children in the community. The President declared the motion passed.

- **Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Naomi Twine, the commission voted to accept a donation in the amount of \$50 for the Parks & Recreation Fund to support youth recreational activities from the Solowiej family. The President declared the motion passed.**
- There will be a **New Years' Eve Bicentennial blessing**, an event created by the faith-based initiative and Community Involvement Committee of the Bicentennial Commission. This event will take place at 4 p.m. on December 31 at Sandusky High School to celebrate the upcoming 2018 year as one community. Tickets for the Bicentennial Ball will be sold live to the general public on January 1 and will be available at the Sandusky State Theatre website and in the box office.
- Chief Wilcox will be **ringing the bell for Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign** at Kroger on Saturday, December 23.
- On December 17, staff from **Fire and Police Departments took part in the Christmas Party for the kids at Crossroads, Volunteers of America.**
- Chief Wilcox and Fire Marshall Steve Rucker will be helped with the **toy distribution for the Salvation Army** on December 21.
- **Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Naomi Twine, the commission voted to approve two percent cost of living pay adjustments for non-bargaining city employees.**

Discussion: Eric Wobser said both the Administrative Benefit Review Committee and the Finance Committee have recommended two percent cost of living adjustments for non-bargaining employees, effective the first pay period of 2018. The next step is to have the City Commission approve this recommendation.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Naomi Twine, Dennis Murray, Dave Waddington and Dick Brady, 6. The President declared the motion passed.

- Residents who expect their **dwellings to remain vacant and unoccupied during the winter months** are recommend to contact city offices to turn off the water. This will help prevent 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.
- We have had many instances where private contractors working for commercial businesses are **pushing snow from parking lots into the street**. The Street Department is asking for cooperation from those private plow drivers to help maintain safety by keeping snow on their property and plowing to the sides of parking lots. Even pushing snow across the street onto the tree lawn creates problems for motorists within the roadway until a city plow can arrive.
- A special thank you to Juwan Minniefield, the Division of Code Enforcement and the Sandusky Police Department. Mr. Minniefield works with a group of underprivileged children (all but one of whom live in the City of Sandusky) ranging in age from 3 to 14 through the Assembly of Jesus Christ Church in Perkins Township. Through an **angel tree program in Sandusky city hall**, staff and partners donated a total of 16 pre-wrapped gifts

and cash donations totaling \$683 which allowed each child to receive five items from their wish. The Sandusky Police Department also donated 20 footballs and basketballs and presents were delivered to the children by Santa Claus on December 17. The church presented the City of Sandusky with a “thank you” plaque as a symbol of their appreciation.

- Effective December 12, 2017, the National Park Service formally approved the creation of a **larger downtown Sandusky Commercial Historic District** and its listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Through this monumental undertaking, the effort resulted in an additional 43 properties/sites being listed to the previous 35, and now spans 12 city blocks and has expanded the period of significance of downtown from 1835 – 1967. A special thank you to Marous Brothers Construction’s historian and Sandusky native, Sharon Trsek, for all her work and dedication on the project.
- The regular **Planning Commission meeting** will be held on January 24, 2018, at 4:30 p.m. in the first floor conference room.
- **The regular Board of Zoning Appeals meeting** will be held January 18, 2018, at 4:30 p.m. in the first floor conference room.
- A **New Year’s Eve Celebration Fireworks Show** will take place at the Jackson Street Pier on Sunday, December 31. The family show will take place at 6 p.m. and the New Year’s Show at midnight and Eric Wobser thanked Hotel Kilbourne and other sponsors for making this possible. Nikki Lloyd said last year, there was only a show at midnight which received great feedback but they wanted to add a family-friendly event this year so other local business owners joined in to add the family show at 6 p.m. These sponsors include Ohio Pyro & Flame, Barrel House, LEWCO, Barnes Nursery, Zinc Brasserie, Crush Wine Bar, Rick & Meghan Hogrefe with H2 Productions, Kreimes Asphalt & Concrete, Shepherd’s Shoreline Construction, Shore House Tavern, Daly’s Pub, Green Door Media Works, Volstead Bar and the Brady Sign Company. There will be a pedestrian area on the Jackson Street Pier and parking on the south side of the pier and this is a free event for the whole community.
- Applications for the position of **Youth Program Supervisor** are due by January 4, 2018.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Greg Lockhart said he **distributed cookies to the commissioners and staff members and wished everyone a merry Christmas.**

Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Naomi Twine, the commission voted for the following board appointments/reappointments:

Jeff Berquist & Diane Corso on the ADA/Fair Housing Board through December 31, 2020; Brian Allen, Brent Gardner and Dan Moncher on the Audit/Finance Committee through December 31, 2020; John Feick on the Board of Zoning Appeals through December 31, 2020; Andrew Martin (renewal) through December 31, 2020, Dennis Murray, Sr. and Deb Neese-Voltz through December 31, 2020 on the Cemetery Board; Charlene Adams (Clergy rep.) Jennifer Washington on the Community Relations Board through December 31, 2020; Matt Lasko the Erie County Economic Development Board and the Erie County Land Bank Committee and the Erie County Economic Development Council; David Miller (Member) & John Panzer (Alternate Member) on the Erie Regional Planning Commission through December 31, 2018; David Brink and Bob Runner on the Income Tax Board of Review through December 31, 2019; Eric Jordan, Jr. and

Barbara Rose on the Recreation Board through December 31, 2020; Cynthia Ball and John Parker on the Sandusky Tree Commission through December 31, 2020.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Naomi Twine, Dave Waddington and Dick Brady, 5. Abstain: Dennis Murray, 1. The President declared the motion passed.

Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Nikki Lloyd, the commission voted for Naomi Twine to be the liaison to the Community Relations Commission. The President declared the motion passed.

Upon motion of Dick Brady and second of Nikki Lloyd, the commission voted for Dave Waddington to be a liaison/voting member of Planning Commission. The President declared the motion passed.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Kathryn Carter, 5309 Columbus Avenue, said she has seen a lot of people getting their pictures taken at the new mural behind the State Theatre and this is a good starting point for Sandusky in creating a selfie tour. When in Seattle, Kathryn Carter said one percent of new buildings had to be dedicated to some form of outdoor art. There is a building with a giant steel man with a hammer and one with a huge pile of brick with staircases going to nothing. It has been a long year and it has been a learning experience and although interesting, it has also been tedious at times. The Friends of the Jackson Street Pier have been told they are not forward thinking, but was recently in Toledo and shared ideas from this community for consideration.

Dennis Murray said it is the bane of the democratic process to have social media comments and a healthy exchange of ideas which sometimes discourages people from running for elected office. Free speech without ownership is not free and appreciates the perspectives brought forward, even though everyone does not always agree.

Mike Zuilhof, 243 East Market Street, said the Friends of the Greenhouse have been working on restoration work at the fountain/sculpture in Dauch Park. Budget constraints have caused this area to decay a bit but people are looking out for it. If the legislation for the public Arts & Culture Commission passes, it will ensure there are funds for these areas in the city. People rallied when the wall at the end of Peddler's Alley was proposed to be torn down and it is now shored and stabilized. We have some public art and this should also be celebrated more and recognized. Dennis Murray said the Boy with the Boot is also a form of public art.

At 4:20 p.m., upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Naomi Twine, the commission voted to adjourn. The President declared the motion passed.

Kelly L. Kresser, CMC
Commission Clerk

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