

The Vice President called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. after the Invocation, given by Mr. Murray, and the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Clerk called the roll and the following Commissioners responded: Wes Poole, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine, Dave Waddington, Blake Harris and Mike Meinzer. Ms. Twine made motion, seconded by Blake Harris to excuse Mr. Brady. The Vice President declared the motion passed.

City staff present: Eric Wobser - City Manager, Stuart Hamilton - IT Director, Don Rumbutis - IT Technician, Michelle Reeder – Finance Director, Marcus Harris – Diversity and Economic Opportunity Manager and Cathy Myers - Commission Clerk.

City staff via teleconference: Aaron Klein - Public Works Director, Jonathan Holody - Development Director, John Orzech – Assistant City Manager, Brendan Heil – Law Director, Jared Oliver – Police Chief, and Mario D’Amico – Fire Chief.

Upon motion of Mr. Waddington and second of Ms. Twine, the commission voted to approve the minutes of the December 13 regular meeting and suspend the formal reading. Mr. Murray declared the motion passed.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

No response.

PROCLAMATION AND KEY TO THE CITY PRESENTATION

Mr. Murray presented Joey and Mary Supina with a proclamation and key to the City. He also acknowledged their family in attendance that evening. Through Sandusky Artisans, these two people have worked tirelessly in our community in an effort to provide a path for those suffering from alcohol and drug addiction. The difference their efforts have made can never be accurately measured. No one can really keep score of the lives that have been changed by their work. Not just the lives of the addict or the alcoholic, or those with mental health issues, but also all the lives of families that are impacted by their work. They have allowed countless people to become productive members of society. They have returned fathers, mothers, brothers and sisters back to their families and to society to live meaningful lives. Thank you for believing that every person is capable of change, that every person deserves dignity and respect, and that every life is worth saving. In a world where addiction can seem to be a relentless foe, thank you for being the warriors of hope. Sandusky and its residents can never really express our gratitude. This is but a small token of our gratitude. If you want to know what the hands of God look like - look at their hands. These are examples that you will find in Mary and Joey Supina. He stated it was his honor to present to both of them the following proclamation, and this key to the City.

SWEARING IN OF COMMISSIONERS MURRAY AND POGGIALI

Mr. Nolan E. Murray, attorney and son of Dennis Murray, asked Mr. Murray 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 Article 4, 6 and 43 of the City Charter.

Judge Tygh Tone, asked Mr. Poggiali to raise his right hand and repeat the following: I, Stephen R. Poggiali, 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 Article 4, 6 and 43 of the City Charter.

PRESENTATION: D.E.I. STRATEGIC PLAN ROADMAP OVERVIEW

Marcus Harris, Diversity and Economic Opportunity Manager

Mr. Harris explained that DEI work is both a professional and personal journey and every journey requires a guide. For the City of Sandusky DEI Plan, we will be working with Lisa Bottoms, the founder of Bottom Line Consulting Group of Cleveland, Ohio. Ms. Bottoms is a leader in the Service Industry with over 30 years of experience in government, non-profit management, strategic planning, program development, DEI and project management. The common understanding of academics in business circles is that having a diverse staff and leadership team offers improved decision-making, more creative solutions to complex problems, and better overall performance. One of the major goals of the DEI strategic plan is to help the City as an employer - to position ourselves as the employer of choice in northeast Ohio, by harnessing the power and benefit of having a diverse workforce reflective of the population we serve. Our objectives are to gather data, review policies and procedures, establish DEI goals, define the metrics used to measure these goals, and share our findings. The outcome from this work will be an increase in community trust and local government. It will show that we have an equitable allocation of public resources to the entire City. It will increase employee satisfaction, engagement and reduce staff turnover. This work will help inform the City's overall strategic plan and create a framework for City employees continuously improving our delivery of service to the citizens of Sandusky. Having a DEI strategic plan will accelerate our journey to achieve equity in our pipeline for employment with the City. Once hired we want to insure all employees have the tools to succeed in their jobs from onboarding through their probationary periods and beyond. We want to help senior leaders, managers and supervisors to understand and model inclusive behaviors to insure our worksites are welcoming spaces - to retain employees that we hire. Some of you have heard the phrase "representation matters". Sandusky's employees and citizens need to see themselves reflected in all levels of City government. I want to be clear – diversity isn't just a race issue – age, gender, physical ability, sexual orientation, geographic location, education level, military experience, are all examples of social identities that DEI work impacts. We want to celebrate our City's diverse workforce, so that our employees feel comfortable bringing their whole selves to work. DEI work is primary and not peripheral work. We all have a shared responsibility in bringing this work to life. We will employ a four-phased approach to our DEI guide work. This is a holistic assessment of our City as an employer and service provider. We want our work to be data driven. Conducting employee interviews, focus groups, electronic surveys will be critical to our success. We will assess the organizational infrastructure, service offerings, evaluate programs to see that they are reaching our target population, look at the effectiveness of our marketing and communications for staffing, procurement and funding. We want to ask the tough questions, and not shy away from the answers. Transparency is crucial into building trust. In addition, we want to create a public report of our findings and going forward report out on metrics and the goals as we accomplish them. Phase one, which we just completed, was about planning, level setting, scheduling, and establishing a strong team for our work going forward. Invitations to join our DEI action team were sent out to the entire City staff, and members of the Commission. Our DEI action team consists of employees of Community Development, Building, Code Compliance, Customer Accounting, HR, and Public Works. We also would like to thank Commissioner Blake Harris for representing the City Commission on the team as well. Phase two which we are currently in is about interviewing and meeting with key stakeholders, sending out our employee's survey, and conducting departmental focus groups. We will review current program outreach efforts, staffing demographic data, procurement efforts and current equity tools and use. We have to have data – to make data informed decisions. We want to go off facts and not story. Phase three is about the DEI team crafting strengths, weakness, opportunities, threat or swot analysis, DEI impact analysis, conduct external research into best practices from some of the leading private and public sector organizations – who have done DEI work before us. We do not want to waste our time re-inventing the wheel. Our team will form recommendations on prioritizing of keys areas of focus to share with senior leadership. Phase four will produce a variety of recommendations for the City including mission, vision, value statements – based on

those that we construct for our group. I was very surprised when I came to the City that we did not have these in use. These statements form the foundation for all activities within an organization. Our vision statement is our organization aspiration of what we hope to achieve in our work. Our mission statement is the specific description of what we need to do each day to achieve that vision. It defines how the City of Sandusky will be different from other municipalities and how we do things. A value statement defines what we believe and how we expect all employees to behave, with each other, with citizens, suppliers, and other stakeholders. As leaders, we cannot expect to hold employees accountable or we cannot expect our employees to understand where we want them to be, or how we want to get there, if we do not have something tangible in-place to point to as the North Star. Without declaring the values that the City as an employer believes in, we cannot hold ourselves accountable for how we do business. This work will not only inform our current work as a DEI action team, but also to our current workforce – and will set the benchmark for excellence for generations to come. Sandusky has made tremendous progress over the last decade in his opinion. We must set in stone the mission, vision and values that were used to get us here. In addition, make sure that this can guide us as we move forward into the future. Lastly, the DEI action team will create immediate mid-term and long-term goals informed from the baseline metrics we determined were our key areas of focus. We will provide to City leadership recommendations to address areas of opportunity through possible legislation and deliver to the Commission a presentation of the DEI Strategic Plan Results. Open communication is the foundation to any relationship, and he wanted to make sure the Commission and the citizens of Sandusky have an awareness of the work that we are doing.

Discussion:

Ms. Twine thanked Mr. Harris for the work he is doing with the City. Sometimes we assume that these things are already happening, but they are not. She also thanked him for investing in his hometown, the City of Sandusky, and helping us to move forward. Mr. Poggiali inquired if Mr. Harris would be coming back at different intervals to update the Commission on the process. Mr. Harris remarked that he would be glad to do so, and it was his desire to keep the key stakeholders informed and up-to-date on all the work of the DEI team. Mr. Meinzer inquired if this was a presentation for a consultant. Mr. Harris explained the team would be working with a consultant to formulate the DEI strategic plan, but the rest would be the core work of the team. The contract with Ms. Bottoms was negotiated at a very low rate, because we already had many of the pieces in place already to go forward. Commissioner Harris commented that he was happy to have Mr. Harris back in the community and working for the City. Mr. Murray agreed with the plan and noted that diversity of thought starts with diversity of experience. He stated that private industry has embraced this plan because it works and makes companies more successful. It makes the employees better committed to the organization and the mission. It makes the organization more responsive to the people it serves. It produces better results.

PUBLIC HEARING: PROPOSED 2022 BUDGET, Michelle Reeder, Finance Director

Ms. Reeder explained the 2022 budget, which cannot be passed until the first meeting in January 2022. The temporary budget which will need to be passed under an emergency, because it will go into effect on January 1, 2022, so we will have a budget to be operating with once we roll into the new calendar year. The budget presented is the Operations and Maintenance Budget (O&M Budget); the Capital Budget will come to the Commission in 2022 with all the capital projects for the upcoming year. The budget is prepared in Fund Accounting format. Most expenditures are made from the General Fund. The total of all budgeted funds is \$81,804,185. We had 253 employees in the budget prior to the pandemic, in 2021, we had 240 employees, and now for 2022 we are budgeting for 245 employees. Wages of personnel, fringe benefits and health insurance in 2022 is \$26.3 million of the budget, about 32%. The General Fund budget is \$25,040,321. About 20% of the General Fund goes to the Police Department and all their staffing, about 20% goes to the Fire Department, about 6% goes to the Horticultural Division – the greenhouse, facilities and grounds maintenance. Administrative Support Department budget is \$7.4 million. Revenue for the General Fund is anticipated at \$25.3 million, 45% of that money is from income tax collection, 25% is from the admissions tax. In 2019, long-term debt payments-

from our bond retirement fund was \$1,625,020. In 2022, our debt payment is reduced to \$693,180. A drastic pay-down in the last three years, which puts the City in a good position going forward. The Temporary Budget for 2022 is a quarter of the full annual budget, to work within the first quarter of 2022.

Discussion:

Mr. Waddington stated that he attended the 2022 Budget Meeting and asked when the second round of Federal Revenue would be received by the City. Ms. Reeder replied that she believed the second round would be received in May. Mr. Poole inquired where the increased revenue for 2022 was coming from. Ms. Reeder explained that an approximate \$2 million increase was anticipated from the Cedar Point agreement in Admissions Tax alone. Mr. Poole inquired about the addition in personnel. He would like the Commission to be given an organizational chart breaking down all staff, who they report to and a list of their duties. City Manager, Mr. Wobser responded that most projected hires would be replacing those positions that were lost during the pandemic, except for the Parks and Recreation Director, which will start the process of planning for the construction of a new Recreation Center and still would not fully replace all to 253 pre-pandemic employees. Mr. Wobser stated that he hoped to bring the organizational chart to the Commission to consider by the first quarter of 2022. Mr. Poole stated he wanted the organizational chart with their duties to make a decision on staffing going forward. Mr. Murray encouraged Mr. Poole to meet with Mr. Wobser to go over any further questions he may have. Mr. Poggiali inquired when the new staff was slated to be hired. Mr. Wobser stated that they would like to advertise for the new Recreation and Parks Director position in the first quarter of this year, so that person could be onboard for site planning and program planning for that facility for the community. Most other replacement positions would be filled in a timely manner after the passage of the budget. A couple positions are slated to be filled later in the year to replace retirees. Mr. Poggiali stated his inquiry was based on the uncertainty of the economy especially with the COVID pandemic and interest rates raising. Mr. Wobser wanted to highlight that this budget was a record-breaking budget for the City, given the new revenue with the Admissions Tax. However, it is also a conservative budget, because we are budgeting under 50% of the new revenue in this budget for this year. In 2015, our budget was slightly over \$15 million, and the current budget we are proposing is 40% higher than that. He is not aware of any other community in the country that has had a 40% increase to their General Fund revenue over the last seven years. Our debt service has decreased by nearly a million dollars annually and we sit in a new city hall, are at the precipice of building a new justice center and a new recreation center – which will not put us into a hole financially, but has already been funded by the Cedar Point Partnership. The \$18 million in pandemic funds given by the federal government will allow us to further stabilize our revenue and make good investments into the City. Our investment climate is stronger now than it has been in decades, our revenue is stronger than it has been in decades; our debt service is lower than it has been in decades. We do want to be conservative with our budget, but we need to also pause and realize how far we have come, and it reflects the many years of all of our hard work. Mr. Meinzer asked about payroll of an employee of the Fire Department that was also working in Code Enforcement. Ms. Reeder explained the employee's duties were primarily (60%) Fire Department duties, but as he retires in 2022 his position with the Fire Department will be filled. Mr. Poole inquired how projected increased revenue could be accounted for in the 2022 Budget. Mr. Murray reminded Mr. Poole of the categories that the Cedar Point Agreement earmarked for those increased revenues. Mr. Wobser explained that 20% of the revenue was unrestricted for property maintenance, safety, and street repair. Ms. Reeder explained that this revenue will go into the General Fund, Administrative Support Department #7900, and will be transferred into the Capital Project Fund for expenditures. Mr. Murray commended Ms. Reeder for her teamwork and collaboration in working with staff and the Commission, and Mr. Wobser for being the visionary for the City. With no further comments, Mr. Murray declared the Public Hearing for the Budget closed.

CURRENT BUSINESS

Upon motion of Mr. Waddington and second of Mr. Poole, the commission voted to accept all communications. Mr. Murray declared this motion passed.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

ITEM 1 – Submitted by Michelle Reeder, Finance Director

FINAL AMENDMENT #5 TO GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS CY2021

Budgetary Information: The amendment covers final payroll and other projected costs through December 31, 2021. Appropriation amendments are required to update the 2021 budget, including the General Fund, Park and Recreation Fund and Capital Projects.

ORDINANCE NO. 21-200: It is requested an ordinance be passed adopting amendment #5 to Ordinance No. 21-003; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.

Upon motion of Mr. Waddington and second by Ms. Twine, the Commission voted to adopt the ordinance under the suspension of the rules in full accordance with the Section 14 of the City Charter. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Wes Poole, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine, Dave Waddington, Blake Harris, and Mike Meinzer, 6. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Wes Poole, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine, Dave Waddington, Blake Harris, and Mike Meinzer, 6. Mr. Murray declared the ordinance passed in full accordance with the City Charter.

ITEM 2 – Submitted by Michelle Reeder, Finance Director

TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR 2022

Budgetary Information: This action will establish a budget for operations until the annual appropriations may be approved after the second Monday in January 2022. The City Charter prohibits the City from enacting the 2021 budget before January 10, 2022.

ORDINANCE NO. 21-201: It is requested an ordinance be passed to make temporary appropriations for the months January, February, and March 2022, and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.

Upon motion of Ms. Twine and second by Mr. Harris, the Commission voted to adopt the ordinance under the suspension of the rules in full accordance with the Section 14 of the City Charter. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Wes Poole, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine, Dave Waddington, Blake Harris, and Mike Meinzer, 6. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Wes Poole, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine, Dave Waddington, Blake Harris, and Mike Meinzer, 6. Mr. Murray declared the ordinance passed in full accordance with the City Charter.

ITEM 3 – Submitted by Michelle Reeder, Finance Director

ADOPTION OF BUDGET CY 2022 – FIRST READING

ORDINANCE NO. _____: It is requested an ordinance be passed making general appropriations for the fiscal year 2022.

Upon motion of Ms. Twine and second by Mr. Waddington, the Commission voted to adopt the ordinance under the First Reading. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Wes Poole, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine, Dave Waddington, Blake Harris, and Mike Meinzer, 6. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Wes Poole, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine, Dave Waddington, Blake Harris, and Mike Meinzer, 6. Mr. Murray declared the ordinance passed in First Reading.

ITEM 4 – Submitted by James Green, Interim Fire Chief

PURCHASE OF TWO OUTBOARD ENGINES FOR THE FIRE RESCUE BOAT

Budgetary Information: The total amount for the two (2) 2019 Mercury 350 outboard engines is \$27,475.00. The cost of this purchase will be paid from the fire department's operating budget, 110-1310-54090.

ORDINANCE NO. 21-202: It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and ratifying the emergency purchase of two (2) 2019 Mercury 350 outboard engines through the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) Auctions website for the Sandusky Fire Department's Fire Boat; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.

Upon motion of Mr. Harris and second by Mr. Meinzer, the Commission voted to adopt the ordinance under the suspension of the rules in full accordance with the Section 14 of the City Charter. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Wes Poole, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine, Dave

Waddington, Blake Harris, and Mike Meinzer, 6. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Wes Poole, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine, Dave Waddington, Blake Harris, and Mike Meinzer, 6. Mr. Murray declared the ordinance passed in full accordance with the City Charter.

ITEM 5 – Submitted by James Green, Interim Fire Chief**PURCHASE OF ONE COMMERCIAL GRADE HOT WATER HEATER FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Budgetary Information: The total amount for the commercial grade 100 gallon 200,000 BTU hot water heater is \$16,734.00. The cost of this purchase will be paid with General Funds.

ORDINANCE NO. 21-203: It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to expend the necessary funds for the emergency purchase of one (1) commercial grade hot water heater from Keller Plumbing LLC, of Sandusky, Ohio, for the Sandusky Fire Department, and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.

Upon motion of Mr. Waddington and second by Mr. Poole, the Commission voted to adopt the ordinance under the suspension of the rules in full accordance with the Section 14 of the City Charter.

Discussion:

Mr. Meinzer inquired why Keller Plumbing was selected over Gundlach Plumbing, asking if it was the scope of work. Mr. D'Amico, Fire Chief, responded that Mr. Meinzer was correct in his assumption, and the Keller Plumbing bid was more detailed and had a better understanding of the project.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Wes Poole, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine, Dave Waddington, Blake Harris, and Mike Meinzer, 6. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Wes Poole, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine, Dave Waddington, Blake Harris, and Mike Meinzer, 6. Mr. Murray declared the ordinance passed in full accordance with the City Charter.

ITEM 6**FOP COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY**

ORDINANCE NO. 21-204: It is requested an ordinance ratifying, accepting and approving a collective bargaining agreement between the City of Sandusky, an Ohio Charter Municipal Corporation, and the Fraternal Order of Police, Ohio Labor Council, Inc., the collective bargaining unit for certain employees of the Sandusky Police Department, for the period: January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2024; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.

Upon motion of Mr. Meinzer and second by Mr. Waddington, the Commission voted to adopt the ordinance under the suspension of the rules in full accordance with the Section 14 of the City Charter.

Discussion:

Mr. Heil presented the negotiated tentative agreement that has been reached with the FOP for the next 3 years. He wished to thank the FOP for their work in this agreement. The agreement has a 3-year wage structure – 2% increase in 2022, 2.5% increase in 2023, and a 3% increase in 2024. One other big economic change was raising the minimum wage for Police Officers to \$23.75. Our health insurance costs for next year are staying consistent, but going forward we will move to a percentage-based, cost-sharing model. Mr. Meinzer commented on the fitness incentive that was provided, and thought that was a great addition. He questioned the differential in pay between ranks; in the contract, there is no reference to captains. Chief Oliver commented that we currently have no captains in our department, but the rank does still exist.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Wes Poole, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine, Dave Waddington, Blake Harris, and Mike Meinzer, 6. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Wes Poole, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine, Dave Waddington, Blake Harris, and Mike Meinzer 6. The President declared the ordinance passed in full accordance with the City Charter.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Wobser thanked Commissioner Twine for her leadership and steadfast strong voice on this Commission for the last eight years. Mr. Wobser also welcomed Mr. Poggiali and his expertise in working with the city to the Commission.

DONATIONS

- Commissioner Waddington has donated \$300 this year through payroll deductions to the Sandusky Recreation Department. He would like the donation to be utilized for the upcoming Winter Break program. We thank him for his continued support of the Recreation Department. **Ms. Twine made motion, seconded by Mr. Meinzer to accept the donation.**

NEW & OLD BUSINESS**ADMINISTRATION**

- Both the Administrative Benefit Review Committee and the Finance Committee have recommended a 2% cost of living adjustment and a one-time bonus of \$1,750 for current full-time, non-probationary and non-bargaining employees as of December 7, 2021. Full-time, non-bargaining employees did not receive a cost of living adjustment in 2021. The cost of living adjustment will be effective the first pay period of 2022 and a one-time bonus will be paid the last pay of 2021. Current probationary employees will receive the one-time bonus after successful completion of their probationary period. The next step is to have the City Commission approve this recommendation. **Mr. Waddington made motion, seconded by Ms. Twine to approve this recommendation. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Wes Poole, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine, Dave Waddington, Blake Harris, and Mike Meinzer, 6. Mr. Murray declared this motion passed.**
- I would like to request a motion to affirm the following persons who have been appointed to serve as volunteers in the respective board or commission:
 - Bayfront Corridor Committee – David Miller, William Semans, and Mike Zuilhof (through 12.31.24)
 - Economic Development Incentive Committee – Paul Koch (through 12.31.24)
 - Erie Metropolitan Housing Authority Board – Jonathan Holody (through 12/08/26)
 - Fire Prevention Code Board of Appeals – John Feick and Dan Fresch (through 12.31.24)
 - Housing Appeals Board – Walt Matthews and Janice Warner (through 12.31.24)
 - Income Tax Board of Review - Keri May (through 12.31.23)
 - Public Arts & Culture Commission – Chris Parthemore and Martha Wikel (through 12.31.24)
 - Residential Building Code Board of Appeals – Roger Gundlach (through 12.31.24)**Mr. Waddington made motion, seconded by Mr. Meinzer to approve these appointments. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Wes Poole, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine, Dave Waddington, Blake Harris, and Mike Meinzer, 6. Mr. Murray declared this motion passed.**

FINANCE

- General reminder for property owners of vacant dwellings – if your dwelling is expected to remain vacant and unoccupied during the winter months, we highly recommend that you contact our office to turn off the water. 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.

PUBLIC WORKS

- We are excited to announce that the Perkins Avenue and Warren Street projects were awarded \$487,500 each, totaling \$975,000 from the Ohio Public Works Commission. In July, the City will receive these funds, which will be split as \$650,000 in grant and \$325,000 in interest free loans. Both projects include sewer, water, and pedestrian improvements and are expected to be bid over the summer of 2022 with construction ending in 2023.
- Staff is looking for permission to submit a Safety Application to ODOT for additional sidewalk funding associated with the Cleveland Road project up to \$650,000. They were notified of the application a week ago and it is due by the end of the month. A formal communication will be sent at the next commission meeting for permission to apply and accept money if awarded.

Ms. Twine made motion, seconded by Mr. Waddington to approve the application.

Mr. Murray declared the motion passed.

- Special thanks to the Streets & Traffic division for successful completion of this year's leaf collection program. For any residents with additional leaves, the drop-off area near the Marquette Drive entrance to the City Service Center will remain open seven days a week until January 21st. Leaves must be bagged in paper bags.
- Plans for the Meigs Street Reconstruction project have been accepted by ODOT and the project is expected to bid in January or February accompanied by an RFQ for inspection services.
- An update on the failed emergency generator at the Wastewater Treatment Plant: staff is working diligently to develop a set of bid documents for refurbishment of the existing unit. A project is anticipated to be brought to Commission for approval to bid in January in hopes of having the generator up and running by the middle of May when the ultraviolet treatment system is required to be turned back on for the summer.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

- The next **Arts and Culture Commission** meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 18 at 5:15 PM.
- The next **Landmark Commission** meeting scheduled for Wednesday, January 19 at 5:00 PM.
- The next **Board of Zoning Appeals** meeting scheduled for Thursday, January 20 at 4:30 PM.
- The next **Planning Commission** meeting scheduled for Wednesday, December 22 at 5:00 PM.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Waddington made a comment thanking Ms. Twine for always coming to Commission meetings "game-ready", for her passion and consistency; he further stated she would be missed. Ms. Twine stated it has been a wonderful experience on Commission. Eight years ago, she had not planned to run for any public office. However, since Sandusky is her home she is excited for what the future holds for the City and is proud to have been a part of the many accomplishments over these years. She stated her thanks to fellow Commissioners, staff, the community and the Register for their support. Mr. Meinzer remarked that Ms. Twine was one of the reasons he ran for Commission. Mr. Murray stated he and President Brady thanked Ms. Twine for being a great resource and they appreciate her insight and her quiet voice, she will be deeply missed. Mr. Harris echoed thanks to Ms. Twine and the sense of calm and reason she brought to the Commission.

Mr. Murray asked for a motion for Public Hearing at the next meeting for the CDBG FY 2021. **Mr. Waddington made motion, seconded by Mr. Harris. Mr. Murray declared the Public Hearing set.**

The following appointments are made by the City Commission President with consent by the City Commission:

Audit/Finance Committee

Dan Moncher & Steve Tomasula through December 31, 2024

CRA Housing Council

Rick Jeffrey & Michelle Reeder through December 31, 2024

The following appointments are made by the City Commissioners:

Board of Zoning Appeals

Walt Matthews through December 31, 2024

CRA Housing Council

Yvonne Anderson through December 2024

Cemetery Board

Steve Toft, & Harrison Smith through December 31, 2024

Community Relations Commission

Valerie Cruse through December 31, 2024

Erie County Economic Development representative

Jonathan Holody (Board Member)

Erie County Land Bank Committee representative

Jonathan Holody (Board Member)

Erie County Economic Development Council representative

Jonathan Holody

Landmark Commission

Louis Schultz and Robert Truka through December 31, 2024

Planning Commission

Conor Whelan & Jade Castile through December 31, 2024

Public Arts & Culture Commission

Jordan Sternberg through December 31, 2024

Recreation Board

Larry Wren, Elisabeth Collins-Fiske, Tom Sharrah, & Shawn Coakley December 31, 2024

Sandusky Tree Commission

Jim Arthur through December 31, 2024

Upon Motion of Mr. Waddington and second of Mr. Harris, the commission voted to accept all re-appointments to Commissions and Boards. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Wes Poole, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine, Dave Waddington, Blake Harris, and Mike Meinzer, 6. Mr. Murray declared the motion passed.

Mr. Murray commended the City staff for their hard work during a trying year of the pandemic. He looks forward to the great things we can and will accomplish in the next year.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion of Mr. Meinzer and second of Mr. Waddington, the Commission voted to adjourn at 6:31 pm. Mr. Murray declared the meeting adjourned.



Cathleen A. Myers
Commission Clerk



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