

**President Brady called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. followed by the Invocation, given by Mr. Murray and the Pledge of Allegiance.**

**The Clerk called the roll and the following Commissioners responded: Dennis Murray, Dick Brady, Steve Poggiali, Dave Waddington, Blake Harris, Mike Meinzer, and Wesley Poole, 7.**

City staff present: John Orzech – Interim City Manager, Colleen Gilson – Interim Asst. City Manager, Cody Browning – IT Manager, Don Rumbutis – IT Technician, Brendan Heil – Law Director, Michelle Reeder – Finance Director, Jared Oliver - Police Chief, Mario D’Amico – Fire Chief, Aaron Klein – Public Works Director, James Stacey – Transit Administrator, Arin Blair – Chief Planner, Marcus Harris – Diversity & Economic Manager, Jason Werling – Recreation Superintendent, and Cathy Myers - Commission Clerk.

**Upon motion of Mr. Waddington and a second by Mr. Poggiali, the commission voted to approve the minutes of the May 8, regular meeting and suspend the formal reading. President Brady declared the motion passed.**

#### **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

Tom Lamarca, 206 48<sup>th</sup> Street, stated that he was very proud to hear that the commission has gone forward with a local family for the new hotel project investment downtown. Good move, he stated.

#### **KEY TO THE CITY: Rev. Thomas E. Darden, Dennis Murray, Commission Vice President**

President Brady stated we have the privilege of honoring a longtime City resident who has served this city and continues to serve the city in a variety of capacities throughout his entire lifetime. He stated he has asked Commission Vice President, Mr. Murray to conduct the ceremony since he has had a close personal relationship with the Darden family for years.

Mr. Murray stated he was delighted to be given the opportunity to do this tonight. He stated it would truly be a fool’s errand to attempt to summarize the rich, long, and varied experiences that have been made by Reverend Thomas Darden. He stated he could read a long list of his educational, ecclesiastical, philanthropic, family and community contributions until our eyes would glaze over. A few highlights should be said. A graduate of Sandusky High School, he served on the first Sandusky Human Relations Commission, fourteen years as an Ohio school athletic official, eight years on the City Commission including three as mayor, forty years on Sandusky Cemetery Board, a Community Service Award from the Ohio Rights Commission to honor him as an inductee into the Erie County Chamber of Commerce Gallery of Achievers. Probably the longest serving creature the State of Ohio has ever known. He stated he would accept the challenge to summarize Rev. Darden in this way, a true friend of the City of Sandusky. Beyond his many years of service, Rev. Darden has always been available to his fellow citizens to offer advice, chastisement when necessary, and support and praise when appropriate. The chastisement comes in private, just so you know, it is appreciated when given. He has served generations as an example of how to conduct one’s self with purpose, with dignity, challenging what must be challenged, and always with the respect and humility rooted in the knowledge that our fellow citizens have varied experiences which inform us in different ways. Rev. Darden cultivated a God-given gift to bridge these differences by helping all see past their own limitation while catching a glimpse of what lives in the hearts and minds of others. In honor of Rev. Darden’s steadfast friendship to the City of Sandusky we are proud to claim him as one of the best public servants, citizen, volunteer, and friend that Sandusky has ever known. And to confer upon him our highest honor by presenting him this Key to the City of Sandusky. This Key to the City of Sandusky is presented to Reverend Thomas E. Darden, this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of May, 2023 in honor of his unwavering dedication and commitment to the Sandusky community by his service as a City Commissioner and on many City boards.

Rev. Darden stated he wanted to say thank you. He stated he does not have words to describe how he feels right now, but he can tell you this, he is probably the most embarrassed person in

the City because he cannot understand what he has done to be given a distinguished award such as this. Sandusky has been his home since 1929 when he was born here, he was raised in Georgia, and came back to Sandusky and graduated from high school and has been in Sandusky ever since. He has not been able to follow all the actions of the City Commissioners, he would love to, but he sees such wonderful things being done and planned for Sandusky. There is no place he would rather have for his home other than Sandusky. He has no desire to visit any place out of the country, there is so much in this country to see, rather than spend his time and money going out of the country. The one place he would love to go visit is Mount Rushmore. He is still amazed by it. He saw the plans for the hotel in Sandusky, many good things planned, he knows there are some things that are unkind – and we will overcome those things. He shall cherish this award as long as his life is permitted to. Thank you again.

President Brady remarked that we made history tonight since having three standing ovations for Rev. Darden.

**PROCLAMATION: Click It or Ticket, Commissioner Blake Harris**

WHEREAS, as the Memorial Day holiday weekend approaches and summer seems around the corner, an increased number of drivers will be traveling; and WHEREAS, the safety and security of the citizens of the City of Sandusky and the surrounding areas are vitally important; and WHEREAS, the 2022 seat belt use rate was 91.6%, but we can do better; and WHEREAS, in 2021 there were 11,813 unbuckled passenger vehicle occupants killed in crashes; and WHEREAS, regular seat belt use is the single most effective way to reduce injuries and fatalities in motor vehicle crashes and is the best defense against impaired, aggressive and distracted drivers; and WHEREAS, the use of seat belts is supported by the laws of the City of Sandusky; and WHEREAS, the Border to Border initiative, will be a one day national seat belt awareness kickoff event, coordinating highly visible seat belt enforcement; and NOW THEREFORE, we do hereby announce May 22 through June 4, 2023 as “**Click It or Ticket**” in the City of Sandusky, and urge all citizens to always wear seat belts when driving or riding on our roadways. Dated this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of May, 2023.

**CURRENT BUSINESS**

**Upon motion of Mr. Waddington and a second by Mr. Poggiali, the commission voted to accept all communications. President Brady declared this motion passed.**

**President Brady asked if anyone would like any items moved from the Consent Agenda to the Regular Agenda. None heard.**

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

**ITEM A – Submitted by Cathy Myers, Commission Clerk**

**LIQUOR LICENSE FOR S & S REALTY LTD**

**Budgetary Information:** There is no budgetary impact for this item.

**Notice to Legislative Authority for NEW D5A Liquor License,** Spirituous liquor on premises consumption only, beer, wine, and mixed beverages for on premises, or off premises in original sealed containers until 2:30 am for hotel or motel with 50 or more rooms for transient guests.

**For: S & S Realty LTD (Thirsty Pony/Cedar Stables Inn/Cedar Corner Complex), 1935 Cleveland Road.**

**ITEM B – Submitted by Colleen Gilson, Interim Director of Community Development - **SECOND READING****

**APPROVAL OF ENTERPRISE ZONE TAX ABATEMENT AGREEMENT WITH FIRELANDS FEDERAL CREDIT UNION**

**Budgetary Information:** The project will have an ongoing positive impact on the general fund, as 25% of the increase in assessed value will be subject to real estate taxes during the abatement period. The project will also help sustain employment in the local economy and will create at least one (1) and retain four (4) permanent full-time positions subject to City income tax.

**ORDINANCE NO. 23-108:** It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into an enterprise zone agreement with Firelands Federal Credit Union,

relating to property located at 329 W. Perkins Avenue; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.

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**ITEM C – Submitted by Cody Browning, IT Manager**

**APPROVAL FOR SOFTWARE SUPPORT RENEWAL WITH JOHNSON CONTROLS**

**Budgetary Information:** The cost for the annual Software House Support for a 12-month period is \$11,458.15 and will be paid with funds from the IT Department operating budget.

**ORDINANCE NO. 23-109:** It is requested that an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing payment to Johnson Controls Inc. of Cleveland, Ohio, for the annual software house support fee for the City's access control systems (door locks) for the period June 1, 2023, through May 31, 2024; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.

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**ITEM D – Submitted by Jane Cullen, City Engineer**

**WWTP SECONDARY DIGESTER #3 CLEANOUT PROJECT CHANGE ORDER 1 & FINAL WITH SYNAGRO CENTRAL**

**Budgetary Information:** Change Order No. 1, a deduction in the amount of \$30,820.03 will revise the contract amount to \$37,917.65 for Synagro Central, LLC. The final costs for the project are to be paid with Sewer Funds.

**ORDINANCE NO. 23-110:** It is requested that an ordinance authorizing and directing the City Manager to approve the first & final change order for work performed by Synagro Central, LLC of Fredericktown, Ohio, for the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Secondary Digester #3 Cleanout Project; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.

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**ITEM E – Submitted by Josh Snyder, Public Works Engineer**

**APPROVAL OF 2022 W. MONROE ST DRAINAGE PROJECT CHANGE ORDER 1 & FINAL WITH ED BURDUE**

**Budgetary Information:** This original contract was not to exceed \$105,749.16. The final contract amount will be \$117,795.63, which is an increase of \$12,046.47, an overall increase of 11%, shall be paid from the Sewer Funds.

**ORDINANCE NO. 23-111:** It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to approve the first & final change order for work performed by Ed Burdue & Co. LLC, of Sandusky, Ohio, for the 2022 W. Monroe Street Drainage Project in the amount of \$12,046.47; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.

**Upon motion of Mr. Murray, and second by Mr. Poggiali, the commission voted to accept the Consent Agenda and declare all ordinances and the liquor license as drafted and presented to the City Commission under the Consent Agenda shall take effect in accordance with the Section 14 of the City Charter.**

**Roll call on the motion: Mr. Murray-abstain A & B, Mr. Brady-abstain B, Mr. Poggiali, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Harris, Mr. Meinzer, and Mr. Poole, 6/5/7. Roll call on the ordinances and liquor license: Mr. Murray-abstain A & B, Mr. Brady-abstain B, Mr. Poggiali, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Meinzer, and Mr. Poole, 6/5/7. President Brady declared these ordinances and liquor license passed.**

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**REGULAR AGENDA**

**ITEM 1 – Submitted by Michelle Reeder, Finance Director FIRST READING**

**ADMISSION TAX UPDATE**

**Budgetary Information:** There is projected to be no budgetary impact.

**ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_:** It is requested an ordinance be passed amending Part One (Administrative Code), Title Nine (Taxation), Chapter 195 (Admissions Tax), Sections 195.02 (Definitions), 195.03 (Admission Tax Levied), and 195.05 (Collection of Tax) of the Codified Ordinances, in the manner and way specifically set forth hereinbelow.

**Upon motion of Mr. Waddington, and second by Mr. Poole, the commission voted to pass this ordinance at first reading and in full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter. Roll call on the motion: Mr. Murray, Mr. Brady, Mr. Poggiali, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Harris, Mr. Meinzer,**

and Mr. Poole, 7. Roll call on the ordinance: Mr. Murray, Mr. Brady, Mr. Poggiali, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Harris, Mr. Meinzer, and Mr. Poole, 7. President Brady declared this ordinance passed.

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**ITEM 2 – Submitted by John Orzech, Interim City Manager**

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**APPROVAL OF FOURTH AMENDMENT TO SEWER SERVICES AGREEMENT**

**Budgetary Information:** This amendment provides the framework for Erie County paying their appropriate share of the Mills High-Rate Treatment and the Ultraviolet Disinfection Projects through a 30-year loan that the City arranged with the Water Pollution Control Loan Fund. The County will pay their appropriate share of each debt service payment prior to the debt service being due.

**ORDINANCE NO. 23-112:** It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into a fourth amendment to the Sewer Services Agreement with Erie County 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. Poggiali, the commission voted to pass this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.**

**Comments:**

Mr. Poggiali wanted to note all the hard work Commission and staff and the County Commissioners did in making this cross the finish line – it is a win for both, a lot of hard work went into it. Mr. Orzech commented that we are excited and encouraged by this and the County Commissioners will be voting on this same addendum on Wednesday. There was a lot of hard work put into this by staff. The resolution that the county passed resulted in us being paid in full for everything that was in that resolution. We received the \$125,000 that was in that resolution as well. We are very pleased with Hank Solowiej and the County Commissioners for getting this done. It is for the betterment of Sandusky and Erie County to have this agreement in place. President Brady stated that the County saved billions of dollars in interest which means the residents saved billions of dollars. We have all found a way to meet in the middle ground.

**Roll call on the motion: Mr. Murray, Mr. Brady, Mr. Poggiali, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Harris, Mr. Meinzer, and Mr. Poole, 7. Roll call on the ordinance: Mr. Murray, Mr. Brady, Mr. Poggiali, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Harris, Mr. Meinzer, and Mr. Poole, 7. President Brady declared this ordinance passed.**

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**ITEM 3 – Submitted by James Stacey, Transit Administrator**

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**APPROVAL OF STS AGREEMENT FOR TRANSPORTATION SERVICES WITH KALAHARI RESORTS**

**Budgetary Information:** STS will receive \$71,400 for the length of the proposed contract. This money collected will be used to offset the capital planning and operating expenses through the 2023 5311 Rural grant program.

**ORDINANCE NO. 23-113:** It is requested that an ordinance authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into an agreement for transportation services between the City of Sandusky and LMN Dev Spe LLC, d.b.a. Kalahari Resorts & Conventions-Sandusky for the period of January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023; 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. Poggiali, the commission voted to pass this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.**

**Comments:**

Mr. Murray stated he was pleased that we have three important pieces of transportation legislation on this agenda tonight. He is hopeful the contributions stated tonight will grow in the future since it is truly a county-wide transportation service. We have a wonderful Administrator James Stacey, he is very competent and very thoughtful, passionate, and organized. The continued future of Sandusky Transit is not sure. We are running larger and larger numbers and it is necessary to have additional revenue sources, whether those will be achieved or not, we do not know. The loss of Sandusky Transit would be devastating for our economy. He is asking residents, office holders, and businesses across Erie County to recognize that transit is at the knife's edge. We will continue through the end of this year, where we go beyond that is hard to

say. It is his ardent hope that this necessary service continues for Erie County. We do need to expand beyond the small revenue base that we have today. The state and federal government are providing less meaning that local government must carry that burden. President Brady stated that with most programs when they are suffering with financial issues, the people who can least afford are the ones who get hurt the most. This is not a luxury – it is a necessity. Mr. Poggiali stated he agreed with their comments and thanked staff for being successful in passing the hat, up to this point we had very little success, and you must have done something to make the magic work with this item and the next one.

**Roll call on the motion: Mr. Murray, Mr. Brady, Mr. Poggiali, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Harris, Mr. Meinzer, and Mr. Poole, 7. Roll call on the ordinance: Mr. Murray, Mr. Brady, Mr. Poggiali, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Harris, Mr. Meinzer, and Mr. Poole, 7. President Brady declared this ordinance passed.**

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#### **ITEM 4 – Submitted by James Stacey, Transit Administrator**

##### **ACCEPTING CONTRIBUTIONS FOR STS**

**Budgetary Information:** The funds collected in the amount of \$55,300 will be deposited to the Transit fund to help offset Operating and Maintenance expenses.

**RESOLUTION NO.023-23R:** It is requested a resolution be passed accepting financial assistance from the city of Vermilion, Huron Township, and Perkins Township for the operation of the Sandusky Transit System; and declaring that this resolution shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.

**Upon motion of Mr. Waddington, and second by Mr. Murray, the commission voted to pass this resolution under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.**

##### **Comments:**

President Brady stated he believed that Vermilion has participated in supporting this program for some time now. Huron and Perkins Townships are new to the equation. All the contributions are very meaningful. Mr. Orzech wished to thank staff for hearing the Commission loud and clear when they were pushed to go to these communities and start the conversation. Additionally, Ms. Johnson has a lot of comments but this one she pushed us so he wanted to personally thank her. She made comments that she went to a County Commission meeting and got this ball rolling. We are grateful, we didn't twist too many arms, but we laid out our case and those townships got onboard. It is a great first step. We have a way to go, and we will keep on that. We also thank Cedar Point and Serving Our Seniors that have been contributing for years. It has been a great success; we appreciate that support. Mr. Poole stated we have been working on this for some time and he also wanted to recognize Sharon Johnson for her contribution and also it important that since Mr. Orzech has been in this position for the short period of time that it has been, a lot of good things have been happening in the community, with regard to folks working together and making some changes that are positive for the community. He appreciates his leadership. Additionally, about the bus in general, yes, it is important for those residents to get around. It represents those that work in the stores and restaurants, that keep the businesses going. It is one of those things where the folks in the back of the house do not miss them until they are gone. Yes, we need to make this as economical as possible, but the money they spend at these appointments or destinations is money that is spent in our economy. For those of you that own rental units and are looking for people to live in them, those people that ride the bus pay their rent with the money they get from that ride. It is important to keep the price inexpensive, because if you have to take a cab, why bother to go to work since all the money earned is spent on the cab? He had an experience with a young woman last night from the Dominican Republic, she is in Port Clinton, and she was shopping for groceries here in town. It cost her \$54 to get to the store by cab before she could buy her groceries. She is visiting here for the summer, but the point is that is \$108 round-trip for fifteen miles. We need to be sure that the buses keep running.

**Roll call on the motion: Mr. Murray, Mr. Brady, Mr. Poggiali, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Harris, Mr. Meinzer, and Mr. Poole, 7. Roll call on the resolution: Mr. Murray, Mr. Brady, Mr. Poggiali, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Harris, Mr. Meinzer, and Mr. Poole, 7. President Brady declared this resolution passed.**

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#### **ITEM 5 – Submitted by James Stacey, Transit Administrator**

**APPROVAL TO PURCHASE CRADLEPOINT MOBILE ROUTERS FROM INSIGHT FOR STS**

**Budgetary Information:** The purchase of equipment, license subscription and technical support will cost \$17,800 and will be 100% reimbursed by the Ohio Transit Partnership Program SFY2021 OPT2 funding source code OTPP-0081-GRF-211.

**ORDINANCE NO. 23-114:** It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to expend funds for the purchase of eight (8) Cradlepoint Mobile Routers and subscription licenses from Insight Public Sector of Tempe, Arizona, through the Equalis Group Cooperative Purchasing Program for the Sandusky Transit System; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.

**Upon motion of Mr. Murray, and second by Mr. Poole, the commission voted to pass this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter. Roll call on the motion: Mr. Murray, Mr. Brady, Mr. Poggiali, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Harris, Mr. Meinzer, and Mr. Poole, 7. Roll call on the ordinance: Mr. Murray, Mr. Brady, Mr. Poggiali, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Harris, Mr. Meinzer, and Mr. Poole, 7. President Brady declared this ordinance passed.**

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**ITEM 6 – Submitted by Colleen Gilson, Interim City Manager/Interim Community Development Director****APPROVAL OF MOU WITH FAIRMONT PROPERTIES & NORTHCOAST INNS FOR JACKSON ST. LOT**

**Budgetary Information:** There is no cost to the City.

**ORDINANCE NO. 23-115:** It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Fairmount Properties, LLC, and North Coast Inns, Inc. for the potential redevelopment of the Jackson Street parking lot in Sandusky; 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. Poggiali, the commission voted to pass this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.**

**Comments:**

Mr. Harris commented that bringing a hotel development to downtown Sandusky certainly is a transformative addition. It will enhance the City's appeal, not just to the tourist destination, but it provides accommodation options for visitors, but also brings several benefits to the local economy with comfortable lodging options, visitors will be more inclined to stay longer and explore the City and surrounding attractions. This increase in foot traffic will lead to greater spending on local businesses including restaurants, shops and entertainment venues, thereby boosting the local economy. He is excited although he realizes this is the start of a series of many steps, he is excited about this project. Thanks also to the Longer family for betting on us. President Brady thanked Ms. Gilson for getting us to this point with this project, the first steps are always the hardest ones. Ms. Gilson stated this will build a framework that will guide us through this process in the creation of a development agreement. Mr. Ruttenberg is with us tonight, a principal with Fairmount Properties, as well as Mr. Longer and his business partners which happen to be many of his children from Northcoast. Mr. Ruttenberg, Westlake, Ohio, stated he was delighted to be here with the Longer family. He has been watching the progress in Sandusky for a decade or more. His company is based in Cleveland, he is the CEO and founder of his company. He has executed about \$2B of ground-up projects to date, about 31 projects with 10 in Ohio. They are super excited with the opportunity to create something that is transformative. Downtown could not be prouder to be partners with the Longer family. We have 6 hotels currently in projects throughout the country and these are some of the finest operators and people that he has had the chance to work with. He is excited to bring residential into this project and ground floor retail which complements some of the existing stars that are already in Sandusky. He is excited about the State Theatre expansion. There is true potential to create a world-class development here. He thanked Ms. Gilson and stated he looked forward wo working with the Commission as they move on to the next stage. Mr. Poole asked Ms. Gilson what the difference was between the proposal made by the developer, 76 room hotel and 470 space garage, we are doing a memorandum that states 120 rooms. Ms. Gilson stated the 120 keys for hotel and 300 for parking were park of the Downtown Master Plan as what downtown could host. Of the four proposals that were received, the Fairmount Group proposed what they thought they

could do. The first was a set of guidelines, and the proposal put forward was ranked highest. The memorandum follows their proposal. Mr. Longer stated he could not say how proud he was to stand there. Twenty years ago, he would have never thought this was possible. It is possible because of the work from people in this room that have worked on Shoreline Drive, the Pier, they have attracted all the restaurants that moved here. He was on the Pier two years ago at a concert with about a thousand people, everyone was having a good time. I thought I was not in Sandusky, Ohio, I am in maybe Savannah, Georgia. What you have done is brought that vibrancy to Sandusky. I go to excellent restaurants and shopping. The hotels are out on Route 250 and you have to Uber to come down here. We decided we could build a nice hotel here and we are thankful that you have chosen us to do this. The brand that we will bring, the Hampton Inn. People ask what will we do in the winter when there is not much going on down here? What we can tell you, the Hampton brand is going to bring people down here. They will come. They made reservations with Hilton, the largest hotel chain, the best loyalty program. Sports Force has been a big part of its operation, another plus that will help bring people in the winter. When he grew up in Sandusky, and went to St. Mary's high school, Lasalle's, Caryl Crane, JC Penny, Sears, were here and it was a vibrant downtown. When the mall was built it all died out, but you have brought this back – and we are proud to be part of it. He is proud of his children that work with him. They will continue long after he is gone. Fairmount has the expertise to put these big developments together. Mr. Ryan Longer, Windemere Lane, stated that a hotel in downtown Sandusky will offer a unique experience for a couple of reasons. The close proximity to Cedar Point, to ride the Jet Express to and from, the fact that it will be on the water with lake front views, and that the downtown is historical. It will provide a different experience than a hotel on the turnpike. All the non-franchise restaurants will help to create a different experience as well. President Brady stated that as a Commissioner you hear a lot of stories and hopes and dreams, his only question to Mr. Longer is – What took you so long? His only disappointment with this whole project is that it will take a while. Things like this do not happen in a year, or a couple years. But most things worthwhile are worth the wait. We are thrilled to work with a partner that is a local operator, and you have partnered with a true professional. This seems to be a combination that will be a winner for this City.

**Roll call on the motion: Mr. Murray, Mr. Brady, Mr. Poggiali, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Harris, Mr. Meinzer, and Mr. Poole, 7. Roll call on the ordinance: Mr. Murray, Mr. Brady, Mr. Poggiali, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Harris, Mr. Meinzer, and Mr. Poole, 7. President Brady declared this ordinance passed.**

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**ITEM 7 – Submitted by Colleen Gilson, Interim City Manager/Interim Community Development Director**

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**APPROVAL OF ED GRANT AGREEMENT WITH EL GRAND PATRON**

**Budgetary Information:** The City will be responsible for providing \$15,000 in grant proceeds from the Economic Development Capital Projects Fund on a reimbursement basis.

**ORDINANCE NO. 23-116:** It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and approving a grant in the amount of \$15,000.00 through the Economic Development Fund Program to El Pino LLC, d.b.a. El Grand Patron Mexican Restaurant, in relation to the property located at 1007 West Perkins Avenue, Sandusky; 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. Poggiali, the commission voted to pass this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.**

**Comments:**

Mr. Murray commented that while reading this his stomach started to grumble, and his wife wanted to know why. He stated because this is one of his favorite restaurants in Sandusky. What a wonderful family it is to support those that have invested so much of their blood, sweat, tears and cash in Sandusky running a fine, upstanding organization. This is the kind of business in the southside that we want to and must support to make sure that the momentum is radiated throughout the City. He is happy to support this legislation and is thankful for their investment. President Brady was assured by the Law Department that just because he eats there it is not a conflict for him to vote on this legislation.

Roll call on the motion: Mr. Murray, Mr. Brady, Mr. Poggiali, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Harris, Mr. Meinzer, and Mr. Poole, 7. Roll call on the ordinance: Mr. Murray, Mr. Brady, Mr. Poggiali, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Harris, Mr. Meinzer, and Mr. Poole, 7. President Brady declared this ordinance passed.

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**ITEM 8 – Submitted by Josh Snyder, Public Works Engineer**

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**PERMISSION TO BID 2023 CDBG STREET REHABILITATION PROJECT**

**Budgetary Information:** The estimated cost of the project including engineering, inspection, advertising, construction, and miscellaneous costs, is \$264,839.61 paid solely with federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds.

**RESOLUTION NO. 024-23R:** It is requested a resolution be passed declaring the necessity for the City to proceed with the proposed 2023 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Street Rehabilitation Project; approving the 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 Mr. Waddington, and second by Mr. Poggiali, the commission voted to pass this resolution under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter. Roll call on the motion: Mr. Murray, Mr. Brady, Mr. Poggiali, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Harris, Mr. Meinzer, and Mr. Poole, 7. Roll call on the resolution: Mr. Murray, Mr. Brady, Mr. Poggiali, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Harris, Mr. Meinzer, and Mr. Poole, 7. President Brady declared this resolution passed.**

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**ITEM 9 – Submitted by Megan Stookey, Project Manager**

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**PERMISSION TO AWARD 2023 SIDEWALK REPAIR & REPLACEMENT PROJECT TO HULA CONSTRUCTION**

**Budgetary Information:** The contract shall not exceed \$153,628.70 which shall be paid with \$85,655.85 Capital Projects Funds (Issue 8 Infrastructure), \$20,655.75 American Rescue Act Funds and \$47,317.10 Capital Improvement Funds.

**ORDINANCE NO. 23-117:** It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into a contract with JMJ Incorporated Ltd, d.b.a. Hula Construction of Castalia, Ohio, for the 2023 Sidewalk Repair & Replacement Project; 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. Poole, the commission voted to pass this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter. Roll call on the motion: Mr. Murray, Mr. Brady, Mr. Poggiali, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Harris, Mr. Meinzer, and Mr. Poole, 7. Roll call on the ordinance: Mr. Murray, Mr. Brady, Mr. Poggiali, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Harris, Mr. Meinzer, and Mr. Poole, 7. President Brady declared this ordinance passed.**

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**ITEM 10 – Submitted by Megan Stookey, Project Manager**

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**APPROVAL TO PURCHASE JUSTICE CENTER EVIDENCE ROOM SHELVING FROM OSUPPLIES**

**Budgetary Information:** The cost for the purchase and installation of new shelving units for the Evidence Room at the Justice Center facility shall not exceed \$25,294.49 and be paid for using the Capital Projects Fund.

**ORDINANCE NO. 23-118:** It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to expend funds to STS Offerings, Ltd., d.b.a. Osupplies.com of Sandusky, Ohio, for the purchase and installation of new shelving units for the evidence room at the Justice Center facility; 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. Poggiali, the commission voted to pass this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter. Roll call on the motion: Mr. Murray, Mr. Brady, Mr. Poggiali, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Harris, Mr. Meinzer, and Mr. Poole, 7. Roll call on the ordinance: Mr. Murray, Mr. Brady, Mr. Poggiali, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Harris, Mr. Meinzer, and Mr. Poole, 7. President Brady declared this ordinance passed.**

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**ITEM 11 – Submitted by Mario D'Amico, Fire Chief**

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**APPROVAL TO PURCHASE 5 PORTABLE RADIOS FOR FIRE FROM MOTOROLA**

**Budgetary Information:** The total amount for this purchase is \$13,019.60. This purchase will be paid with monies from the Sandusky Fire Department's operating budget.

**ORDINANCE NO. 23-119:** It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to purchase five (5) APX 900 Model 2 Portable Radios and accessories from Motorola Solutions, Inc. of Chicago, Illinois, through the Sourcewell Cooperative Purchasing Program; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.

**Upon motion of Mr. Poole, and second by Mr. Murray, the commission voted to pass this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter. Roll call on the motion: Mr. Murray, Mr. Brady, Mr. Poggiali, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Harris, Mr. Meinzer, and Mr. Poole, 7. Roll call on the ordinance: Mr. Murray, Mr. Brady, Mr. Poggiali, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Harris, Mr. Meinzer, and Mr. Poole, 7. President Brady declared this ordinance passed.**

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**ITEM 12 – Submitted by Marcus Harris, Diversity & Economic Opportunity Manager**

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**APPROVAL FOR AGREEMENT WITH ERIE COUNTY OHIO MEANS JOBS FOR SUMMER JOBS PROGRAM**

**Budgetary Information:** There is no budgetary impact. Seasonal employment funds spent on wages for youth in the program will be re-imbursed to the City of Sandusky from ECOMJ up to \$13/hr.

**ORDINANCE NO. 23-120:** It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into a work site agreement with Ohio Means Jobs of Erie County for the Summer Youth Employment Program and the reimbursement of wages for program participants; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.

**Upon motion of Mr. Murray, and second by Mr. Poggiali, the commission voted to pass this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter. Roll call on the motion: Mr. Murray, Mr. Brady, Mr. Poggiali, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Harris, Mr. Meinzer, and Mr. Poole, 7. Roll call on the ordinance: Mr. Murray, Mr. Brady, Mr. Poggiali, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Harris, Mr. Meinzer, and Mr. Poole, 7. President Brady declared this ordinance passed.**

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**ITEM 13 – Submitted by Jason Werling, Recreation Superintendent**

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**APPROVAL FOR AGREEMENT WITH GWN FOR 4<sup>TH</sup> DRAGONS & BACON FESTIVAL FOR RECREATION**

**Budgetary Information:** The amount payable by the City of Sandusky Recreation Division to GWN Communications, LTD. under the agreement for the 2023 Dragons & Bacon Fest is US \$16,500.00. A 25% deposit totaling \$4,125.00 would be due immediately following commission approval. The city of Sandusky shall have the right to terminate the agreement due to the cancellation of the event or lack of team registrations, if written notice of cancellation is received before August 15, 2023, at which the 25% deposit will be refunded. If paid, the City will recoup these costs from the registration fees paid by the participants.

**ORDINANCE NO. 23-121:** It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into a services agreement with Great White North Communications, Ltd., of Toronto, Ontario, for services related to the fourth annual Dragons and Bacon Festival for the Recreation 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. Meinzer, the commission voted to pass this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.**

**Comments:**

Mr. Murray wished to thank Mr. Werling for bringing this opportunity to us again. It sounds like a really odd event, dragons and bacon. We have had a chance to go twice now and the teamwork with the dragon boat teams that compete is really exciting and fun to watch. Some of these boats have the most hilarious catastrophes, but no one really gets hurt cause they are wearing life jackets. The bacon entrees are outstanding. It is no cost to the City, and it is great fun. Mr.

Waddington asked if Mr. Murray was interested in joining him and Mr. Meinzer on their boat – Mr. Meinzer stated he had the drum.

**Roll call on the motion: Mr. Murray, Mr. Brady, Mr. Poggiali, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Harris, Mr. Meinzer, and Mr. Poole, 7. Roll call on the ordinance: Mr. Murray, Mr. Brady, Mr. Poggiali, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Harris, Mr. Meinzer, and Mr. Poole, 7. President Brady declared this ordinance passed.**

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

#### **DONATIONS**

- The City of Sandusky Recreation Department would like to thank David Stedman for the \$500 donation to the Red Popcorn Wagon fund. The donation was given in the name of Lynne Nota (Grathwol) Stedman and will be deposited into the endowment account for the wagon. **Upon motion of Mr. Meinzer, and second by Mr. Waddington, the Commission accepted this donation. President Brady declared this motion passed.**
- An in-kind donation of flags for Veterans Park was received from the Erie County Veterans Commission (\$559 in-kind value). **Upon motion of Mr. Meinzer, and second by Mr. Poggiali, the Commission accepted this donation. President Brady declared this motion passed.**

### **NEW & OLD BUSINESS**

#### **PUBLIC WORKS**

- The Columbus Avenue Underpass is scheduled to re-open to two-way traffic by the end of the week (Friday, May 26) as the utility and pavement repairs have been completed on Columbus, Lane, and Arthur. Pedestrian sidewalks will remain closed as handrails have not yet been delivered. The lift station reconstruction and spot repairs to Campbell Street, which was the detour route over the past 8 months, will be completed as soon as possible. The temporary pumps will remain in place until the City's station is operational.

#### **PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

- Planning Division, on behalf of the Public Arts & Culture Commission, is seeking City Commission approval to apply for the 2023 Bloomberg Philanthropies Asphalt Art Initiative grant to fund a mural project at the Hayes Avenue underpass. This gateway to the city has been identified as a priority for beautification and pedestrian safety improvements in the Public Art & Placemaking Plan, the Sandusky Neighborhood Initiative, and the South Side Plan. Bloomberg Philanthropies will award \$25,000 grants to 20 cities across the UA, Canada, and Mexico in 2023. There is no matching fund requirement for this grant.

I would like to ask for a motion to allow the Planning Division to apply for the 2023 Bloomberg Philanthropies Asphalt Art Initiative grant. **Upon motion of Mr. Waddington, and second by Mr. Meinzer, the Commission granted permission to apply for this grant. President Brady declared this motion passed.**

- Two more vinyl murals have been installed, one at 301 E. Market Street and the other at 246 E. Market Street. This program is produced and funded by the Public Arts & Culture Commission as part of their 2022 work plan. Two more murals will be installed in the coming weeks, for a total of six installations downtown. They are expected to remain in place for 2-5 years. We encourage you to visit them to learn more about each artwork and artist.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

None.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Upon motion of Mr. Waddington, and second by Mr. Poggiali, the Commission voted to transfer the \$125,000 donated for Transit Services in Item #2 on the agenda into the Transit operations**

**budget. Roll call on the motion: Mr. Murray, Mr. Brady, Mr. Poggiali, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Harris, Mr. Meinzer, and Mr. Poole, 7. President Brady declared this motion passed.**

Mr. Waddington stated there were close to 3,000 people at the Wightman-Wieber Charitable Foundation KidsFest celebration this past weekend-the twentieth year. A lot of canned goods were collected for Care and Share.

#### **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

Nancy Bertsch, 105 W. Water Street, Unit 2A, commented that when the city goes into planning for the hotel that you consider with the parking garage a section for resident parking. We are not against paying for parking. With every event and new thing that happens we lose a lot of our parking. She lives near a person in her building that is disabled, and disability parking spaces are at a premium. Is there any information about the Hayes Avenue underpass. She took pictures of the steel I-beams, and they look like Swiss cheese. They are really deteriorated. President Brady stated we have communicated twice with Norfolk Southern to no avail. She wondered if our elected officials could get anywhere. Someone has got to have some responsibility for it. Mr. Waddington asked that the pictures be forwarded to the Commission. Mr. Poole inquired if we had a copy of the last time that underpass was inspected. Mr. Klein stated he has requested the annual inspection reports, and has communicated with the City Manager and someone high up in Norfolk Southern, maybe two months ago. He has emailed them a couple times since then, and he cannot get a response. Mr. Poole stated they will never work with us. We need to send these pictures and the lack of report copies to the federal agency above them. Get it documented. Mr. Poggiali stated that the Director of the Ohio Rail Commission could be contacted as well.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Upon motion of Mr. Murray, the Commission moved to adjourn at 6:11 p.m. President Brady declared the meeting adjourned.**



Cathleen A. Myers  
Commission Clerk



Richard R. Brady  
President of the City Commission