

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

The Clerk called the roll and the following Commissioners responded: Jeff Krabill, Kate Vargo, Dave Waddington, Dick Brady, Dennis Murray, Steve Poggiali, and Richard Koonce, 7.

City staff present: Stewart Hastings – Law Director, Michelle Reeder – Finance Director, Aaron Klein – Public Works Director, Colleen Gilson – Community Development Director, Jared Oliver - Police Chief, Mario D’Amico - Fire Chief, Cody Browning – IT Manager, Don Rumbutis – IT Technician, Arin Blair – Chief Planner, Debi Eversole – Housing Development Specialist, Nicole Grohe – CDBG Program Administrator, Jason Werling – Parks & Recreation Superintendent, Tom Horsman – Communications Manager, and Cathy Myers - Commission Clerk.

Upon motion of Mr. Poggiali, and a second by Mr. Waddington, the commission voted to approve the minutes of the February 26, regular meeting and suspend the reading. President Brady declared the motion passed.

SWEARING IN: Fire fighter Kaishaun Hunter

I, Kaishaun Hunter, recognizing my fundamental duty as a fire fighter of the City of Sandusky Fire Department, do solemnly swear to uphold the standards of my profession by safeguarding the lives and property of our citizens against the threat of fire and disaster. I promise to obey the duly constituted laws of the United States of America, the State of Ohio, the City of Sandusky and to accept the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith, leadership, and trust to be honored for as long as I remain a fire fighter of the City of Sandusky Fire Department. I will continually strive to serve our community and to be an influence for good before my fellow officers and firefighters to the best of my ability so help me.

Chief D’Amico stated that that Kaishaun is a 2021 graduate of Sandusky High School, and he resides in Sandusky. In 2022 he experienced a basement fire in his house and that is what motivated him to become a fire fighter. After experiencing that house fire he attended EHOVE and earned his Firefighter 1 and 2 certifications along with the EMT certification. We wish him good luck in his new career.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Tim Schwanger, 362 Sheffield Way, stated that the Liquor License was a different LLC from their 2020 license. In 2020 a public hearing was requested since there was no concrete plan for that development. He asked if we were going to ask for a public hearing for this one as well. The property owners are again delinquent on their property taxes. He asked about the docks at the Shelby Street Ramp, he knows the city has a schedule for putting those ramps in, but it may be time to change that schedule. In the past they were not put in until April and we should think about doing it in March. Everyone has their docks in by then. The ice is gone. The facility has a heater inside the boat ramp building, so there is no problem with freezing pipes. He also questioned the mural for the Mylander Pavilion, why is it being put on the east side where no one can see it, compared to the west side. Maybe there are windows on the west side, he is not sure.

Kathryn Carter, 5309 Columbus Avenue, stated again she hears about parking, and again she must ask the question where the convenient parking is that was promised for the Jackson Street Pier ferry system after more than two hundred parking spaces were removed during the Pier remodel. A lot of money was spent on the Jackson Street parking lot and now you are going to tear it up for something else. She did not know it was a plan to spend that kind of money instead of just throwing some blacktop on it. That parking will be gone for the convenience of the ferry systems. They are important to this city. Where is this promised convenient parking going to be?

Carl McGookey, 615 Columbus Avenue, stated on behalf of the Columbus Avenue Streetscape Project that he has been a downtown resident since 1983. He and his wife bought their home

over forty years ago hoping to see the revitalization of the downtown. Instead of expecting it to happen in ten to fifteen years, it took twenty-five to thirty years. He stated they have been pleased with what has been going on downtown. He has served on committees including the Downtown Waterfront Development Committee, which was the precursor to the Bayfront Corridor Committee, since 1985. He has been a downtown business owner from 1983-2019 when he retired. He was also a property owner downtown from 2000-2017. He is very aware of the issues that are pervasive of the Columbus Avenue Streetscape Project. They are nothing new. Parking has been the prime topic since 1985. We have had issues with parking, we have the same issues with parking – a lot during the daytime because business owners and employees still insist on parking in front of their business. This keeps visitors from the most convenient parking. The only cure to that which worked for a number of years was active enforcement of parking limitations on the streets. That did work, he saw it firsthand on W. Monroe and Market Street where his businesses were located. There will never be a perfect solution to parking. We can wait ten or twenty years as we continue to expand the offerings downtown. It will cause some parking issues, sometimes, but not all the time. We cannot build to those peaks. We must provide alternatives when those peaks happen. He wants to see continued progress. His wife and himself supported many of the commission for their campaigns, for the promise of continued progress downtown. He urges the commission to move on with this. He is not getting any younger, and he would like to see the Columbus Avenue Streetscape happen sooner rather than later.

Jeff Berquist, 629 Edgewater Avenue, stated his comments were about Jackson Street. He is not here to say he is pro or con, he does not have enough facts yet. He stated he was here to tell a story. God comes down to Noah. Noah, I want you to build me a boat. Noah says ok. God said there are three things on the boat you must do. One, it must be on time. Two, it must be on budget. Three, I need you to finish that other little project over here that is already not on time and not on budget. Noah said I do not know God; I am just a man. God said do not worry about it, I have great faith in you. Noah said, you have seen my track record on the other three projects, that were all over budget, behind schedule, and not on time. God said no, no, no, you will do better this time. Noah said I know I do not want to anger God; I do not want to turn into salt, I have seen what happened to other people. He said, ok, I will do what I can. God said, while you are doing those other things, keep an eye on the new hotel that is going up on private property. See what impact that may be. He stated I can tell you right now, as someone who has a business downtown, on W. Washington Row and Jackson Street, there is a parking problem right now when Care and Share is open on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. He stated he realizes that we must move forward but what he has not seen answers to is what about Bike Week? That brings in millions in the beginning of the season. What about the car shows? He would like to see what impact this project will have on the spur streets that run east and west from Columbus Avenue. He has talked to some people who are very concerned, but they will not come and talk, because they do not want to be naysayers. Nor has he heard anyone talk about snow or forbid a fire. How will that be addressed?

Jennifer Torres, Market Street, stated she wanted to talk about the Columbus Avenue Streetscape Project. When she first saw the project, she was so excited. It reminded her of places she sees on vacation. She is shocked people are against it because of a few parking spots that will be lost. She stated she thinks we can all help to get those spots back. Every restaurant and every business. She comes from four generations of family that have lived here, and she wants this city to be amazing for the next four generations of her family. She also sees the business owners, employees, and construction workers taking some of the best parking spots. She wanted to repeat what Mr. McGookey said, let's all be part of the solution and help bring back some of those spots for the patrons. We can all walk a little further and make ourselves a little uncomfortable to get back some of those spots.

Warrenette Parthemore, 208 Cedar Brook Lane, stated she wanted to give a different perspective on the Columbus Avenue Streetscape and not talk about parking. As most know, she is of an age and has retired, which is very exciting. She brings her friends and family downtown because ladies her age often go on excursions. When they do that, they like to go to lunch, they like to walk around and look at the shops. One of the things that they found is that the places that are most

attractive to them are the places with wide sidewalks, and have places where they can sit. A couple months ago they went to Crush to eat, walked by Fabulous Female because there were no parking spots right in front but by walking by, they saw some things in the windows they would like to buy. That day they walked across the street and had coffee at Mr. Smith's, and they saw the Hippie Shop that had recently opened. She did not know it was there. That is the kind of thing you need to generate. We need to have people walking around to see the little shops and restaurants. We have this parking garage that she noticed was seventy-five percent empty when she came in tonight. There is plenty of parking there. She has arthritis, she is old, she has had two knee replacements, and yet she loves the opportunity to walk around downtown. If she must walk on the side streets – she finds the shops on the side streets. That's the kind of thing we need to look at. We are creating an atmosphere that is going to bring people into town. That is what we want to do.

Tom Lamarca, 206 48th Street, stated he had no intention to speak tonight. He stated he is not a naysayer or against this project. He wished it could be tweaked a little bit. So many people in the city of Sandusky think that the city owns that parking garage. We do not. He does not believe we have an MOU with the county to use it as we do now free of charge. In fact, he knows a couple times last year it was closed. They may leave it open, they may not, they may charge residents to use it, they may not. There is plenty of parking, we will get there.

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

ITEM A – Submitted by Cathy Myers, Commission Clerk

LIQUOR LICENSE FOR BAR 44870 LLC

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

Notice to Legislative Authority for NEW D1, D3 Liquor License; Beer and spirituous liquor only for on premises consumption or in original sealed containers for carry out only until 1:00 a.m.

For: Bar 44870 LLC, 317 E. Washington Street

ITEM B – Submitted by Michelle Reeder, Finance Director

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT FOR ANNUAL SOFTWARE SUPPORT FEE TO SOFTWARE SOLUTIONS

Budgetary Information: The total cost for the annual support fee is \$44,884.22. Of this amount, \$22,442.12 will be paid by the General Fund, \$11,221.05 by the Water Fund, and \$11,221.05 by the Sewer Fund.

ORDINANCE NO. 24-052: It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing payment to Software Solutions Incorporated of Dayton, Ohio for the annual software support fee for the period April 1, 2024, through March 31, 2025; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with section 14 of the city charter.

ITEM C – Submitted by Michelle Reeder, Finance Director

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT FOR SOFTWARE APPLICATION RENEWAL TO KRONOS

Budgetary Information: The cost of this software is based on the number of active employees. We currently have 246 full-time employees and average around 30 part-time employees. The estimated cost for 2024 is not to exceed \$22,200 and includes an allowance for the fluctuations in employee counts. This fee will be paid with funds in the IT Department's operating budget (50%), water fund (25%) and sewer fund (25%).

ORDINANCE NO. 24-053: It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to expend funds to Kronos SaaS, Inc. of Branchburg, New Jersey, for the renewal of the Kronos workforce ready cloud based application for employee management for use by the Human Resources Department for the period of January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with section 14 of the city charter.

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

APPROVAL OF GRANT SUBMISSION FOR WATER RESCUE WITH FIREHOUSE SUBS FOUNDATION

Budgetary Information: There is no budgetary impact. This grant, if awarded, is 100% funded by Firehouse Subs Foundation. There are no matching funds.

RESOLUTION NO. 011-24R: It is requested a resolution be passed approving the submission of a grant application for the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation for grant funding for the Sandusky Fire Department; and declaring that this resolution shall take immediate effect in accordance with section 14 of the city charter.

ITEM E – Submitted by Mario D’Amico, Fire Chief

APPROVAL OF GRANT SUBMISSION FOR EMS TO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Budgetary Information: There is no budgetary impact. This grant, if awarded, is 100% funded by the Ohio Emergency Medical Services Grant through the Ohio Department of Public Safety. There are no matching funds.

RESOLUTION NO. 012-24R: It is requested a resolution be passed approving the submission of a grant application for the 2024-2025 Ohio Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Grant Program through the Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Medical Services, for the Sandusky Fire Department; and declaring that this resolution shall take immediate effect in accordance with section 14 of the city charter.

ITEM F – Submitted by Colleen Gilson, Community Development Director

APPROVAL OF 1ST AMENDMENT TO EZ AGREEMENT WITH FIRELANDS FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Budgetary Information: The percentage and number of years of real property tax abatement provided to the project will remain the same. The project will have an ongoing positive impact on the general fund due to increased income and property taxes.

ORDINANCE NO. 24-054: It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into a first amendment to the 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.

ITEM G – Submitted by Debi Eversole, Housing Development Specialist

ACCEPTING NON-PRODUCTIVE PROPERTY INTO LAND BANK AT 1329 HUNTINGTON AVENUE

Budgetary Information: The cost of this acquisition will be approximately two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) to pay for the title search, deed preparation and transfer fee. All fees will be recouped by the City upon sale of the property. This expense will be paid out of the Land Bank expense account. The taxing districts will not collect the approximate six hundred eight dollars (\$608.00) owed on the remaining 2023 tax bill.

RESOLUTION NO. 013-24R: It is requested a resolution be passed approving and accepting certain real property, identified as Parcel No. 57-05260.000, located at 1329 Huntington Avenue, as a gift of deed for acquisition into the Land Reutilization Program; and declaring that this resolution shall take immediate effect in accordance with section 14 of the city charter.

ITEM H – Submitted by Nicole Grohe, CDBG Administrator

APPROVAL OF MOU WITH ERIE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH FOR DEMO AT 917 JACKSON STREET EXTENSION

Budgetary Information: The City will receive \$15,200 for the demolition from the Erie County Health Department and \$225 from the asbestos survey. The funds will go back into the Special Assessment Nuisance Fund account once received.

ORDINANCE NO. 24-055: It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Erie County Board of Health for utilizing Ohio Lead Safe Home funds for the demolition of a condemned residential structure located at 917 Jackson Street Extension in the City of Sandusky; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with section 14 of the city charter.

ITEM I – Submitted by Aaron Klein, Public Works Director

APPROVAL OF C/O 1 & FINAL FOR COLUMBUS AVENUE LIFT STATION PROJECT

Budgetary Information: The original contract with All Phase Power and Lighting, Inc. of Sandusky, Ohio was \$312,895.00, Change Order 1 is a decrease of \$50,876.74, making the final cost of the project \$262,018.26, which will be paid with Sewer Funds.

ORDINANCE NO. 24-056: It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to approve the first & final change order for work performed by All Phase Power and Lighting, Inc. of Sandusky, Ohio, for the Columbus Avenue Lift Station Improvement Project; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with section 14 of the city charter.

ITEM J – Submitted by Aaron Klein, Public Works Director**ACCEPTING THE PLAT & DEDICATION OF CITY-OWNED PROPERTY FOR SANDUSKY BAY PATHWAY**

Budgetary Information: There will be a fee for the recording of the plat at the Erie County Recorder's office which will be paid with Capital Projects Funds dedicated for the Sandusky Bay Pathway since the grant dollars will not cover engineering fees.

ORDINANCE NO. 24-057: It is requested an ordinance be passed accepting the final plat and confirming the dedication to the use of the public, a tract of land on Cedar Point Drive, Parcel No. 57-69026.000, with a total area of 0.8494 acres; 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. Vargo, the commission voted to accept the Consent Agenda A-J and declare all ordinances and resolutions as drafted and presented to the City Commission under the Consent Agenda shall take effect in accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.

Comments:

President Brady asked Law Director Hastings to answer the question about the liquor license. His understanding was that we have little say about the applications, the person may or may not be delinquent in their taxes, and that is not a reason to ask for a hearing. Negative police activity at that property is a reason, but we do not have that. Is there any reason we should ask for a hearing on this?

Mr. Hastings stated that liquor licenses are controlled by the State of Ohio. We could request a hearing but...

Roll call on the motion: Mr. Krabill, Ms. Vargo, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Brady, Mr. Murray-abstain #F, Mr. Poggiali, and Mr. Koonce, 7. Roll call on the ordinances and resolutions and liquor license: Mr. Krabill, Ms. Vargo, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Brady, Mr. Murray-abstain #F, Mr. Poggiali, and Mr. Koonce, 7. President Brady declared these ordinances and resolutions and liquor license are passed. President Brady moved Item 6 on the Regular Agenda to Item 1 for the sake of time for the audience.

REGULAR AGENDA**ITEM 1 – Submitted by Arin Blair, Chief Planner (FIRST READING)****PERMISSION TO BID THE COLUMBUS AVENUE RECONSTRUCTION & STREETScape PROJECT**

Budgetary Information: The engineer's estimate for the Base Bid construction costs is \$4,948,663.91 and it is anticipated to be paid with Central Public (Downtown) Improvement TIF, Cooke Building Improvement TIF, Capital Projects Funds, and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Stimulus funds.

RESOLUTION NO. 015-24R: It is requested a resolution be passed declaring the necessity for the City to proceed with the proposed Columbus Avenue Reconstruction and Streetscape 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.

Comments:

Mr. Orzech stated that we have had extensive questions from the commissioners that have gone throughout the process for this project. Staff have worked on those. Many of the questions were over the last two weeks. He thanked Colleen Gilson and Arin Blair for putting together a Downtown Parking Action Plan that he has supplied all the commissioners with copies of. He stated it is the commitment of himself and staff over the course of this year and next to update the commission as things progress with this plan. He wanted the commission and the public to know that we wholeheartedly took all the concerns and that we have had addressed and tried to come up with a solution to them. The commission clerk has also been supplied with the plan and it will be implemented if the Columbus Avenue Streetscape project moves forward.

Mr. Waddington thanked City Manager Orzech. He met with him on Friday, and with this communication and a follow-up call he is more comfortable with this project even more than he was before.

Ms. Vargo also thanked the City Manager and staff and all that have contacted her over the last two weeks, listening to their concerns and going forward with this project. She thinks it is good that we ask questions. It is one of the times that we have had dialog and people have really come together and worked together to come to solutions. She is excited that we have done that. She thinks going forward, one of the things she proposed to staff, that residents and stakeholder people come and work with staff on issues we are dealing with whether it is this project or another one, we need to have more transparency with people and better dialog. It is important going forward that people understand what is going on from the beginning. She is sure they did three years ago, three years later here we are, and there have been a lot of questions. She thanks all for the work they have done, and she is looking forward to the future of downtown for sure.

Mr. Koonce also thanked the City Manager and staff for responding to the questions he had. One person said the plan needs tweaking, he heard someone else say that you can put in all the work in the world and there still will be something that was overlooked and not accomplished. But the bottom line is, from his perspective, that it can be done as you work toward trying to do development. You can begin to work toward making sure that you cover your bases as it relates to parking. This is how he sees it. He feels it is important in this discussion based on what he has learned, this project originated maybe four to five years ago. If it did, there were plenty of opportunities before to address some of these issues. When he went back to the records he saw only one commissioner who actually voted no for anything related to this project. And it was on design. He stated he is not saying that to take a jab at anyone, but had the same questions been asked at that time, then we would have probably addressed them by now. He is now ready to roll. He knows there are other projects that we can be working on that are related to the neighborhoods. He is going to be working diligently to be sure that we try to address affordable housing needs. He is comfortable with the questions and answers that he received on this project.

Mr. Krabill stated that he too has been very impressed with the amount of effort that has gone into getting information to the commissioners by staff. But he is not yet convinced that this is a project that is ready to move forward at this point. That is fine. This body does not operate off the opinion of one or two or three but operates as a whole. He has great respect for everyone that sits at the table. It is important that everyone understands the degree, the sheer amount of time that we all put in to read as much as we can, to make as many phone calls as we can, to feel as comfortable as we can when we come to take a vote. He stated he is very comfortable with his vote. He wanted to echo something that commissioner Koonce said; there are many things to focus on, this job is remarkable of how many things there are. The one thing that he is going to be laser focused on is housing in our neighborhoods. It is one of the things that causes him to step back from this project because he hears the concerns that people have that we are spending another \$5M downtown. What are we getting for it? Could some of that money be spent on something in the neighborhoods to make the lives of ordinary citizens better? That is where his focus is. We will hear a lot from him going forward on this and from Mr. Koonce and Ms. Vargo as well. It is a unifying issue that all the commissioners can come together on. He is very pleased to have seen the degree of conversation and the exchange of information to the extent that this can be a jumping off point to have more of that going forward. He thinks the community has been well served.

Mr. Poggiali stated he wanted to echo all the comments that have been made around the table. He has always had a lot of confidence in staff, and they came through again. Someone mentioned to him that the crux of this issue was a parking management problem. He tends to believe there is some truth in that. He has never wanted to suggest that there is a parking problem, we have parking congestion right now. He is trying to look ahead to what could be in the future since we do want to become a destination city and talk about all this development coming. He hopes that in the future when issues like this arise, we can agree to disagree and talk about these things because when we cannot talk about them it is bad government. He wants to have good government at this table. He did have one question for Mr. Klein since he has only been on commission two years. Could he explain the bid process for him.

Mr. Klein stated that we would advertise for bids on a project. State law is fifteen days, you can do longer if you want. Then you accept bids and analyze them for lowest and best. Typically, you award the lowest bidder if they check all the boxes, you do the research and check with the State and be sure that they are current with everything and do not owe any taxes, not any debarment or anything like that. If they are determined to be the lowest and best bidder, you come back to the commission to request to award the project. Alternate bids can be accepted based on the budget. Then you enter a contract with the alternate bids and move forward if approved at commission. Once bids are accepted it comes back to commission for award.

Mr. Poggiali inquired if the bid is accepted if it is ten percent over or less than the estimate? Can we accept an alternate bid if we accept this bid? Does this project have two alternate bids with it?

Mr. Klein stated that anything ten percent over the engineer's estimate must be rejected. The alternate bids would be typically for pieces of the project, like you might break something out of it – not for the entire project. If the base bid is under the engineer's estimate and there is still room to award one of the alternates you would award that alternate. If the base bid is not under the engineer's estimate or within that ten percent, we would have to go back to the drawing board and redesign a component or portion of the project and bring it back for a rebid. Yes, this project has two alternate bids with it.

President Brady stated as president of this commission he has the obligation of setting the agenda that includes what legislation comes before us during our meetings. Most of that legislation is mundane, purchasing chemicals, software, outfitting our firemen. Then there are the big projects like we hear about tonight. But by the time that legislation comes before our commission on Monday night, our staff has put in countless hours behind-the-scenes work on these major projects like the Streetscape. In a perfect world, commissioners would have the input and worked on the details of these projects and have time to ask questions of staff, vet the project, discuss the terms. This project spanned two very different commissions and managers; this is always going to be a challenge. He thinks we all realize that not every question can be answered and that not every detail can be worked out as Mr. McGookey or Mr. Murray indicated. There is always going to be some uncertainty involved. Our obligation is to minimize that uncertainty to an acceptable level. That is where all the questions and all the answers are about. In two minutes, we will find out if we have been successful in doing that. He thanked the City Manager and staff for their round-the-clock work for the last two weeks from the questions presented by this commission. No one believed you could do that, except himself. Staff performed flawlessly. As president of the commission, he is proud of the robust discussion that has been spurred by his fellow commissioners. He looks forward to the continuing progress that lies right in front of us on so many projects that are directly in front of this commission.

Roll call on the resolution: Mr. Krabill-nay, Ms. Vargo, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Brady, Mr. Murray, Mr. Poggiali, and Mr. Koonce, 6. President Brady declared this resolution passed.

ITEM 2 – Submitted by Aaron Klein, Public Works Director

PERMISSION TO BID THE CEDAR POINT CAUSEWAY WETLANDS 2024 TEMPORARY SEEDING PLAN

Budgetary Information: The estimated construction cost for the Cedar Point Causeway Wetlands 2024 Seeding Plan is \$52,250.00, which shall be paid with grant funds approved in an agreement with the State of Ohio (DNRSHLE07) via ordinance 21-092. No City funding will be incorporated into this project.

RESOLUTION NO. 014-24R: It is requested a resolution be passed declaring the necessity for the City to proceed with the proposed Cedar Point Causeway Wetlands 2024 Temporary Seeding Plan 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. Krabill, Ms. Vargo, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Brady, Mr. Murray-abstain, Mr. Poggiali, and Mr. Koonce, 6. Roll call on the resolution: Mr. Krabill, Ms.

Vargo, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Brady, Mr. Murray-abstain, Mr. Poggiali, and Mr. Koonce, 6. President Brady declared this resolution passed.

ITEM 3 – Submitted by Jason Werling, Recreation Superintendent

APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT FOR 2024-2026 SEASONAL DOCK INSTALLATION & REMOVAL WITH HOLCOMB

Budgetary Information: The total cost of this contract for the years 2024-2026 is \$84,000. If approved, the cost for installation and removal of the seasonal docks will be included in the Contractual Services portion of Building Maintenance Division's Operation and Maintenance budget.

ORDINANCE NO. 24-058: It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into a three (3) year contract with Holcomb Enterprises, LLC, of Port Clinton, Ohio, for seasonal dock installation & removal services at the Shelby Street Boat Launch Facility and Pipe Creek Wildlife Canoe Launch beginning in Spring 2024 and ending in Fall 2026; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with section 14 of the city charter.

Upon motion of Mr. Koonce, and second by Ms. Vargo, 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. Werling stated that the docks have been set on a flexible schedule depending on mother nature, usually it happens around the first week in April and until November, many times the last week of November. It is dictated by the weather and if the Bay is frozen or not. With this three-year agreement it gives us the flexibility to move that date earlier if we have good weather.

Roll call on the motion: Mr. Krabill, Ms. Vargo, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Brady, Mr. Murray, Mr. Poggiali, and Mr. Koonce, 7. Roll call on the ordinance: Mr. Krabill, Ms. Vargo, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Brady, Mr. Murray, Mr. Poggiali, and Mr. Koonce, 7. President Brady declared this ordinance passed.

ITEM 4 – Submitted by Jason Werling, Recreation Superintendent

APPROVAL OF PSA FOR MYLANDER PAVILION MURAL WITH GREETINGS TOUR

Budgetary Information: The total cost of the project including travel, local accommodations, design, and painting of the mural is \$30,125. The City's Public Arts and Culture Commission has pledged \$10,000 to the project and Sandusky State Theatre has pledged \$7,500 to the project. The remaining \$12,625 will be paid with Mylander Foundation grant funds.

ORDINANCE NO. 24-059: It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Greetings Tour Inc., of Pasadena, California, for professional services to re-create the "Greetings from Sandusky" mural at the Mylander Pavilion; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with section 14 of the city charter.

Upon motion of Ms. Vargo, 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.

Comments:

Mr. Murray stated there was a question about the placement of the mural, the east side versus the west.

Mr. Werling stated that side was chosen for the space that was available since it is a ten by twenty-foot mural. We have a storage door on the west side of the building, and an access door on the other side.

Mr. Krabill inquired about the south side, that faces the street.

Mr. Werling stated that this side has a door right in the middle of it and there was not enough room on that side for the mural. There are also the logos for the Jackson Street Pier and Mylander Pavilion on the other side.

President Brady stated he believes it is a perfect canvas for what we are placing the mural on. He believes people will use it for a photo opportunity, and perhaps we could have some slight graphics pointing that way.

Mr. Werling stated it is very visible for westbound traffic and with the steps it would be a great place for pictures and sitting in front of.

Roll call on the motion: Mr. Krabill, Ms. Vargo, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Brady, Mr. Murray, Mr. Poggiali, and Mr. Koonce, 7. Roll call on the ordinance: Mr. Krabill, Ms. Vargo, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Brady, Mr. Murray, Mr. Poggiali, and Mr. Koonce, 7. President Brady declared this ordinance passed.

ITEM 5 – Submitted by Jason Werling, Recreation Superintendent

APPROVAL TO ACCEPT EPOC GRANT & AGREEMENT FOR LIGHTING UPGRADES WITH AMERESCO

Budgetary Information: The cost of the LED Lighting Project is not to exceed \$260,880 of which \$250,000 will be reimbursed by the State and the remaining balance of \$10,880 will be paid with Capital Projects funds.

1. ORDINANCE NO. 24-060: It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to accept grant funds in the amount of \$250,000.00 from the Ohio Department of Development through the Energy Efficiency Program for Ohio Communities Grant; authorizing the City Manager to execute any grant agreements and to expend the funds consistent with the grant agreement; 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. Koonce, 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 this is a great grant to get and hats off to the staff who keep finding opportunities to obtain grants. This is one more example of the wonderful job they are doing.

Roll call on the motion: Mr. Krabill, Ms. Vargo, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Brady, Mr. Murray, Mr. Poggiali, and Mr. Koonce, 7. Roll call on the ordinance: Mr. Krabill, Ms. Vargo, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Brady, Mr. Murray, Mr. Poggiali, and Mr. Koonce, 7. President Brady declared this ordinance passed.

2. ORDINANCE NO. 24-061: It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Ameresco Inc. of Worthington, Ohio, for the implementation of the LED Lighting Project relating to the Energy Efficiency Program for Ohio Communities Grant through the Ohio Department of Development for energy conservation & facility Improvement measures for certain City buildings; 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. Krabill asked if this was for outside or inside lighting, is it replacement lighting or new lighting? Did we work with them to specify the temperature of the light bulbs?

Mr. Werling stated the new bulbs will light the Greenhouse, Fire Station 1 and 3, the Service Center, Mills Creek Golf Course Club House, the outdoor lighting at JC Park North, and the Paper District Marina. Yes, we worked with them for bulb determination.

Roll call on the motion: Mr. Krabill, Ms. Vargo, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Brady, Mr. Murray, Mr. Poggiali, and Mr. Koonce, 7. Roll call on the ordinance: Mr. Krabill, Ms. Vargo, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Brady, Mr. Murray, Mr. Poggiali, and Mr. Koonce, 7. President Brady declared this ordinance passed.

ITEM 5 – Submitted by Jason Werling, Recreation Superintendent

APPROVAL OF CONTRACT FOR JUSTICE CENTER WITH PROGRESSIVE CLEANING

Budgetary Information: The total cost of the contract for cleaning services for the initial period in 2024 at the Justice Center shall not exceed \$36,920 and will be split appropriately between

the Building Maintenance Division's Operational and Maintenance Budget and the Sandusky Municipal Court once they have moved back to the Justice Center.

ORDINANCE NO. 24-062: It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Progressive Cleaning Solutions, Inc. of Sandusky, Ohio, for cleaning services at the Justice Center located at 222 Meigs Street; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with section 14 of the city charter.

Upon motion of Mr. Koonce, and second by Ms. Vargo, 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. Krabill, Ms. Vargo, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Brady, Mr. Murray, Mr. Poggiali, and Mr. Koonce, 7. Roll call on the ordinance: Mr. Krabill, Ms. Vargo, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Brady, Mr. Murray, Mr. Poggiali, and Mr. Koonce, 7. President Brady declared this ordinance passed.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

DONATIONS

- Mr. Orzech wished to recognize the loss of Officer Andy Dunn on March 19, 2011. A donation of \$100 for the police department was received from the Hank Solowiej family in memory of officer Andy Dunn. **Upon motion of Mr. Poggiali, and second by Mr. Waddington, the commission voted to accept this donation. President Brady declared this donation accepted.**
- Sandusky Fire Department would like to thank Liz Murray for donating 8 smoke detectors to be disbursed to community members in need.
- Sandusky Fire Department would like thank Mark Advertising for donating 100 stickers of the Sandusky Fire Department patch to label residential lock boxes. **Upon motion of Mr. Poggiali, and second by Mr. Krabill, the commission voted to accept these donations. President Brady declared this donation accepted.**
- Thank you to Betsy and Tim Berkey for their generous donation of \$235.00 to cover the wholesale cost of the Chinkapin oak tree that will be planted by Forestry staff in their boulevard this spring. **Upon motion of Mr. Poggiali, and second by Mr. Krabill, the commission voted to accept this donation. President Brady declared this donation accepted.**
- Parks and Recreation would like to thank Brett Charville for his generous donation of \$5,000 for the 2024 continuation of the Midtown Supper Club program. The donation will be used for staffing and supplies. The award-winning program will be held on March 25th, at 5:30 pm at Mills Recreation Center.
- Parks and Recreation would like to thank the following individuals for their donations of a dinner table or numerous seats for Midtown Supper Club: Pat Shenigo and the Erie County Health Department each donated a table valued at \$220 each. Mary Jane Hahler donated 10 seats valued at \$300.
- Parks and Recreation would like to thank Johanna Powers for her donation of 8 large potted plants to the greenhouse.
- Parks and Recreation would like to thank Parkvue Place for their generous donation of \$1,012.68 towards youth programming at Sandusky Rec. **Upon motion of Mr. Krabill, and second by Mr. Koonce, the commission voted to accept these donations. President Brady declared this donation accepted.**

NEW & OLD BUSINESS

ADMINISTRATION

I would like to request a motion to affirm the appointment of Kizar Peterson to serve as a volunteer member on the Erie Metropolitan Housing Authority Board. Ms. Peterson will be filling out the remainder of a term that will expire December 8, 2024. **Upon motion of Mr. Poggiali, and second by Mr. Koonce, the commission voted to accept this appointment. Roll call on the motion: Mr. Krabill, Ms. Vargo, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Brady, Mr. Murray, Mr. Poggiali, and Mr. Koonce, 7. President Brady declared this appointment made.**

FIRE

On Wednesday March 20 from 5:00-8:00 pm Sandusky Fire Department will be offering a Community CPR class at Station #1. This class is the first of four quarterly CPR classes for Sandusky residents and businesses. The American Heart Association equates bystander CPR, prior to EMS arrival as a major factor in people surviving a cardiac emergency. Call the Fire Prevention Bureau at 419-627-5823 for more information or to register.

PUBLIC WORKS

The City has been awarded \$125,000 in grant funding from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Ohio's Urban Forestry Grant Program that would provide funding to plant trees throughout the South Side neighborhood in coordination with the MacArthur Park project for park and utility improvements.

- The City has been designated a Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation for the 33rd consecutive year. This program is a great opportunity to celebrate the importance of an urban tree canopy and bring attention to the vital purpose of trees. Thank you to our Forestry division and Tree Commission for their hard work and dedication.
- We are excited to announce that Public Works crews are developing timelines for "dewinterization." Once finalized, we will keep Commission and residents updated. The first one out of the gate will be to remove the barriers on Cleveland Road near Cedar Point Drive.

PLANNING DIVISION

- Community Development is seeking City Commission approval to apply for a 2024 AARP Community Challenge "Flagship Project Grant" to fund a shade structure at the Sandusky Wheels Park. If received, the grant would support the installation of the shade structure in the beginner area of the park design, to maximize its benefit for intergenerational families to enjoy the park. The AARP Challenge Grant Program grants up to \$50,000, nationwide, on an annual basis. If received, this would add funds to the overall project and not replace any city funds expected to be allocated toward the project. I would like to ask for a motion to allow the Planning Division to apply for the AARP Community Challenge Flagship Grant. **Upon motion of Mr. Murray, and second by Mr. Poggiali, the commission voted to approve this grant submission. Roll call on the motion: Mr. Krabill, Ms. Vargo, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Brady, Mr. Murray, Mr. Poggiali, and Mr. Koonce, 7. President Brady declared this grant submission approved.**

RECREATION

The Spring Citywide Cleanup event will be on Saturday, April 20 from 8:00 am-11:00 am. It will be held at the Shelby Street Boat Launch overflow parking lot. This event is open to all City of Sandusky residents. A photo ID is required. More information will be posted at CityofSandusky.com.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Murray stated he distributed to the commissioner earlier today a letter for Mr. Orzech to send to the Ohio Historical Connection in support of the placement of a historical marker at the former American Crayon site. A former resident of Sandusky, John Kropf, wrote a book Color Capital of the World: Growing Up with the Legacy of a Crayon Factory, a great story about American Crayon and its history. He has also amassed an enormous collection of American Crayon memorabilia that he donated to the Sandusky Library. There are hopes that some day they can be displayed at the new Recreation Center. Mr. Kropf raised the funding for a historical marker which can be pretty expensive. There are certain minimal requirements to receive the marker at the site. The letter outlines those requirements and is in support of this historical marker. **Upon motion of Mr. Murray, and a second by Mr. Krabill, the commission voted to approve this letter of support. Roll call on the motion: Mr. Krabill, Ms. Vargo, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Brady, Mr. Murray, Mr. Poggiali, and Mr. Koonce, 7. President Brady declared this motion passed.**

Upon motion by Mr. Poggiali, and a second by Mr. Murray, the second Public Hearing was set for the CDBG 2024-2028 Consolidated Plan and the 2024 CDBG Action Plan on April 22, 2024. Roll call on the motion: Mr. Krabill, Ms. Vargo, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Brady, Mr. Murray, Mr. Poggiali, and Mr. Koonce, 7. President Brady declared this motion passed.

Mr. Koonce stated he has spoken with most commissioners about this, he believes it is a conversation that cannot be avoided because it is so important. Kate Vargo had an excellent idea for affordable housing to host an affordable housing expo where residents can get and share information for their housing needs. He believes helping our residents will instill trust in this commission. President Brady stated it was an excellent idea.

Upon motion by Mr. Murray, and a second by Mr. Poggiali, to hold an Executive Session on land acquisition. Roll call on the motion: Mr. Krabill, Ms. Vargo, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Brady, Mr. Murray, Mr. Poggiali, and Mr. Koonce, 7. President Brady declared this motion passed.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Tim Schwanger, 362 Sheffield Way, stated that he understood the Skate Park bid came in over the engineer's estimate. Could someone give an update on the future of the Skate Park? He stated he will send an email to the City Manager about the liquor license for Bar 44870, he still does not understand how this fits in with what happened two years ago with a hearing about the Kriemes liquor license, was the hearing ever held, was the wrong decision made at that time, or was it just dropped. There is no project there.

President Brady stated he believed it was a new person applying for the liquor license, we have no basis to object to that, it does not depend on any project.

Kathryn Carter, 5309 Columbus Avenue, stated when it comes to these things with the Pier and the parking and downtown and other projects – it always turns into an us and them situation. It is not that way. Does everything need updating – yes. Did Jackson Street Pier need work – yes. But when parking is pushed around, she comes downtown and goes from store to store. But if she wants to go into Tonys or another place, she does not want to park in a parking garage on the second floor and walk down and around to get where she is going. She will park in the parking garage when the State Theatre is open, she always did. She thinks a lot of cars are being removed for picnic tables up the street. If picnic tables are not put Infront of every store it will not stop the progress of this city. Everything will expand, it is blooming, it is working. If I wanted to put a patio on a sidewalk, I had to ask the City how I could do this. And now people cannot pass each other on the sidewalk without walking over a tree well. Someone approved that, now it makes it something that has to be changed again. She does not understand why so much money is put into Jackson Street Parking lot and now you will tear it all up for another project. Plans change.... that was supposed to be the convenient parking for the Pier. Where is that parking going to go? Those people do not want to be unloading cars with children and buggies and backpacks in a parking garage. They need long term parking someplace where they can go to the islands and spend the day. She hopes when you do this Streetscaping you do not

put in these skinny two-hundred-dollar trees, spend the money to plant big, tall trees. Some people may not be here when they finally get shade from these trees. She stated she saw on the stock market channel two months ago that seventy percent of the housing in this country is owned by people sixty-five and older. They do not want to move. It is paid off or they have a three percent interest loan. It is the plug in the bottle. If you can get them to sell their homes so that people with families can move up, they have to go into someplace that is nice and what they want. Maybe they are in wheelchairs now. She had people approach her to purchase her four-bedroom home. We need acceptable housing for the seniors so they can sell their homes for the growing families. They need two car garages; Parkvue only built one car garages and have had many complaints.

Mr. Poggiali stated that ECEDC did a housing study. He asked if they factored in the age of this community. He believes eventually there will be a break in the housing market with the aged, but maybe not soon enough.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion of Mr. Murray the Commission moved to adjourn and move into Executive Session at 6:12 p.m. Upon motion of Mr. Poggiali, the commission returned from Executive Session into Regular Session at 7:42 p.m. Roll call on the motion: Mr. Krabill, Ms. Vargo, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Brady, Mr. Murray, Mr. Poggiali, and Mr. Koonce, 7. President Brady declared this motion passed.

Upon motion of Ms. Vargo at 7:42 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.



Cathleen A. Myers
Commission Clerk



Richard R. Brady
President of the City Commission