

Warren, Ohio

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING WARREN CITY COUNCIL

September 22, 2010

- CALL TO ORDER** The regular meeting of Warren City Council was called to order by President of Council Robert A. Marchese in Warren City Council Chambers at 7:30 PM, 141 South St. SE, Warren, Ohio.
- INVOCATION/PLEDGE** Tina Milner, Weed & Seed Director opened the meeting with a Bible reading followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
- ROLL CALL** MEMBERS PRESENT: Flask, Saffold, Colbert, Sferra, Rucker, Dean, Dippolito, Novak, Brown, Morn
- OFFICIALS PRESENT** Mayor O'Brien, Law Director Hicks, Auditor Griffing, Treasurer Homlitas, Director Franklin
- DEPARTMENT HEADS** Chief Bowers, Chief Nussle, Brian Massucci for Gary Cicero, Bob Pinti, Lisa Mazzochi, Paul Makosky, Mike Keys, Tom Angelo, Tom Gaffney, Mike Keys
ABSENT: Sal DiLiello, Chris Stephenson, Renee Cicero
- MOTION-ACCEPT PREVIOUS MINUTES** Motion Rucker, second Novak to accept the minutes of the last meeting but dispense with reading of the same. VIVA VOCE: All Yes; 0 No. Motion passed.

REPORTS

- MAYOR** MAYOR O'BRIEN: Thank you very much Mr. President, Members of Council; Of course between the Director and myself we hope we contacted at least all Council Members including the President of Council over the great news regarding our Warren Fire Department. You know the 4.9 million dollar SAFER Grant, I have to say a lot of the work most of the work that was done was in house with firefighters Randy Stelk and John Jerina with the oversight of President of the Union, Marc Titus and Jeff Younkins, Capatin Jeff Younkins of the Fire Department as well as the fire chief. Melinda Holsopple, our grant writer was also involved in that grant. But I want to mention some things regarding this grant to city council. The SAFER Grant originally was for hiring additional firemen. Some language changes had to be made and they were made by Congress and the Senate and of course one of the leaders in that was Congressman Tim Ryan and the changes that were made were to hire back laid off firefighters. Those changes were made by the House and the Senate, signed by the President to enable us to hire laid off firefighters back. As a result of the 4.9 million dollar grant, we'll be able to hire the laid off firefighters, of the 11 firefighters, it appears at this point, at least today, that probably 10 of those 11 will be coming back to work. The other firefighter has found work elsewhere. In addition to that is to hire the 13 firefighters that we have had through attrition, retirements through attrition. Then we'll be able to, once we hire the firefighters back from a new firefighters, excuse me. We have authorized the Human Resources Department along with, we'll be working with the Civil Service Commission, to have an entry level test for the Fire Department. Then of course we advertise for that, have the test, grade the test, do the necessary work as far as background checks and so on, fingerprints, drug tests and so on. It would probably, I think that would probably take four months. In the meantime, then we'll be able to be able to have enough firefighters to serve the outside stations. So once we hire the laid off firefighters back, that will put us at 61, which is almost identical to the number when we had the first layoff that we closed the outside stations. We'll be able to serve the fire service through the city with the downtown station as we have been for the last eighteen months and there

are different levels of thought whether or not that satisfies the fire safety of the city. That being said, some key points to remember that changes were made in the SAFER language to enable us to hire back our laid off officers and with the notice amount of support we received from Congressman Ryan, Sherrod Brown, and an awful lot of lobbying too with the Firefighters President and Jeff Younkins, past president with state and national, International Association of Firefighters leaders throughout the country enables cities such as Warren to receive such funding. So it was an awful lot of work and an awful lot of effort to get to this point, but it's a great day for the City of Warren, primarily the Fire Department to enable to bring back laid off firefighters and enable to hire additional firefighters in such a tough, economic climate that we have in this nation let alone in northeastern Ohio, let alone in the Mahoning Valley.

Now that being said, you know so many times we have Council Meetings, and days turn in to months turn to months and we just pass by these different grants that we have been receiving over the years. And I just want to touch upon just one department and that's the Engineering Department and Bill Totten retiring, Paul Makosky is doing a great job in replacing Bill. But just in the Engineering Department alone we have the High Street decorator cross-walk project, 110,000 dollars paid for with grants. The Northend Park Trail Head, 150,000 dollars paid for by grants. Tod Avenue resurfacing stimulus project, Tod Avenue resurfacing, 380,000 dollars, the Mahoning Avenue resurfacing that's going on right now, 521,000 dollars and that's also the curbs. Mahoning Avenue lighting that's going to be completed in the month of October, 195,000 dollars; High Street resurfacing, 365,000 dollars. In a few weeks we'll have the ground breaking for the Warren-Greenway Bike Trail, 1.2 million dollars. Our Community Development resurfacing that's on the agenda tonight as far as the Community Development Block Grant package, 452,000 dollars, now those are just the Engineering Department, we're not talking about Weed & Seed, we're not talking about all the grants that Chief Bowers is by the way the author of most of them. Those grants we have received. So the City of Warren in the last year has been very aggressive, very aggressive in writing and obtaining grants. As a matter of fact one of the improvements will have some made for the offices, filing cabinets, just for the grants that we have in process we have received, just for the grants that we have received. So there's an awful lot of credit due to the personnel of this city who are multi-tasking in the work of grant writing from the Fire Department to the Police Department and of course through the Engineering Department and all departments. But in addition to those departments, all those grants are developed in you know years of process to apply for those grants and what grants we feel are worthy to apply for and the City Auditor Dave Griffing is involved in that process and his responsibility is to make sure that we have the sufficient finances in order because of course some require match. So there's an awful lot of collaboration among the city to successfully have days like to have today, but I want to say, Marc Titus is here; an awful lot of work and cooperation from the Warren Fire Department for this day. Thank you very much.

LAW DIRECTOR

MR. HICKS: Thank you Mr. President. No report.

AUDITOR

MR. GRIFFING: Thank you Mr. President. No report this evening.

TREASURER

MR. HOMLITAS: Thank you Mr. President. The Income Tax Department has been busy collecting taxes, of course, and I'd like to report that as of today, we're 350,000 dollars ahead of budget. Thank you.

DIRECTOR

MR. FRANKLIN: Thank you Mr. President. First of all I'd like to congratulate President Titus, command staff of the Fire Department and thank everybody else who had a lot to do with today's announcement. It's sorely needed and we look forward to making our city safer.

Also I see the cardinals are in attendance and I just want to assure you that your councilman has told me about the stop signs on Comstock and they will be erected.

Thirdly, and certainly not least, I received this in the mail, it's called the History of Ohio's Water Systems and it's a historical chronology of the water systems in Ohio. This is signed by the author's of this book and it also features Warren in here in about four pages and it shows a lot historical pictures of our water system through the decades and through the century and how it has developed. I brought

this here for Council to see, but you can't have it. But I want to mention this because there's also a section in there that talks about the diversity of the industry and how its evolved over the years. The National Waterworks Association was started in 1881; 1938 Ohio became a member. Tonight at 7:30 Director of Utility Service Bob Davis is being named State Chairman for the State of Ohio for that organization. The diversity section points out that he's the first African-American to hold such a position. So we want to congratulate Bob and Vince when you get back tell him that we mentioned him and we're proud of him.

We're also proud that he's from Warren, more so. The last chairman who was from Warren at the state, this state organization worked for the city in 1936. So it's time for us to take the control again. So we're really proud to be at the helm of that. So pass that on to Mr. Davis, Vince. Thank you Mr. President.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

None.

PRESIDENT MARCHESE: Speaking of department heads, we want to welcome Mr. Romeo tonight in place of Mr. Davis. Please send our congratulations to him. Half of my street is here tonight I notice Mr. Romeo and Mr. Pinti, it's good to see everybody.

Sept. 22, 2010

SUMMARY OF CORRESPONDENCE

C-016-10 Received from the Planning and Platting Commission and Bd. of Appeals:

9-20-10

Notice of a meeting scheduled on:

THURSDAY, SEPT. 23, 2010; 4:00 PM in Warren City Council Chambers to discuss a:

VARIANCE Request for the temporary installation of a Meteorological (MET) Tower on Austin Village Plaza, 2874 W. Market St. on behalf of Trumbull Property Co. property owners.

REF: All Council Members
Engineering Department

THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS ON FILE IN THE CLERK OF COUNCIL OFFICE.

PRESIDENT MARCHESE: I'd like to go back to Mr. Hicks if I could, Mr. Hicks.

LAW DIRECTOR HICKS: I apologize Mr. President. I did neglect to mention that a couple weeks ago myself, Chief Bowers, one of his captains attended the Attorney General's Law Enforcement Conference in Columbus. It was great training for all of us. It was information to be able to bring back so we can train the trainers so we can come back and offer that information to the troops and I want to congratulate the chief for having his people there. We all got a lot out of it and that's the kind of stuff we need to continue to do to improve our department to better serve our constituents. Thank you Mr. President.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

MRS. RUCKER: Thank you Mr. President. The Community Development Block Grant committee met and we'll be passing Legislation tonight but I just want to say something about the group that met because it's usually a grueling two days and this time was no exception. But the loss of Mr. Klingeman as our guy that was always there so this year Mr. Reynolds Blackburn was our chairman and he did a yoman's job of keeping us in line for the two days. I'd just like to if there's anybody here: Miss Sonya Carter and Troy Krahler. Anybody that was on the committee, please stand and be acknowledged. Sonya, they really worked hard and had a lot of input. Sonya Carter and Troy Krahler, it was their first time and they really brought a lot to the table.

Mr. Novak and Miss Saffold, I think really deserve a lot of praise and because I'm used to it and I don't know why Mr. Keys keeps doing this to us, but he does anyway and I'm kind of used to it, but we met at 8 o'clock in the morning the first day and we got out at 3 and we came to the Finance Meeting. The second day we met at 8 AM and we got out at 4 and we came to the Council meeting, long days for everybody, but I really appreciate you too and your input and making this block grant a success this time. Thank you so much.

And also I wanted to mention Mr. John May, good choice to lead the block grant. He did an outstanding job and I know some of the participants really, he assisted them well and this guy's going places. I told Michael to watch out. But again just thanks to everybody who sat on the advisory committee. Thank you Mr. President.

MAYOR O'BRIEN: Thank you Mr. President. Again with Helen again I would like to thank the committee for their time, I have six appointments and it's tough to get people to commit such time as Helen mentioned. And we have some veterans and we have some new members of the committee and it's a good mix of personnel. And Helen I also received a compliment for Mr. May. And for the record Mr. Klingeman's still around. He just was unable to be here because of health reasons. We didn't lose him. He just was not around that day.

MRS. RUCKER: Right, yeah, but we're so used to the stick.

MAYOR O'BRIEN: Yeah, right. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MARCHESE: He's not far from Pete Rossi's.

MR. NOVAK: Yes, thank you Mr. President. I, too, would like to thank all those that volunteered or got volunteered to sit on that committee. My two appointees Miss Sonya Carter and Troy Kahler and you see their commitments to night; they're here tonight at the passage of this legislation. And Sonya I didn't forget, I have a Raider's pin for you at home. So, you'll get one of those and also I'd just like to recognize Mr. Kahler. He cuts a phenomenal amount of yards surrounding the Mahoning Avenue area that would not get cut if it wasn't for him and he is actually Miss Morn's constituent. He's actually in the 4th Ward, but he's a concerned person and that's why I picked him. So it's not always politics that involves this, but it was a very good meeting and it was difficult to eliminate some people and cut some people's money back but we tried to make sure that everybody got some money on that. So definitely we'll look forward to next year. It will be here before we know it. So again and to the chair person you did a good job too with many of your comments and your interations there to give people guidance especially those new people that have not been there. It's not easy when you have to cut people's money.

MRS. RUCKER: That's right. One more thing I'd like to say Mr. President is that through all of this had we not had good direction on issues or citizens questions, Mr. Keys he just, he pulled it together. You know some times we were, we didn't get to the point of arguing much this year. We had a lot of laughs and Mr. Blackburn, he was like a steering wheel and I think (inaudible) was the crutch because he sat there real calm. But Mr. Keys really brought the information that we needed and when it wasn't in the room or it wasn't in his head, he would call the department head or call the Mayor's office or whatever needed to be done and it just went so smooth and we had a lot of fun this year. So thank you to Mr. Keys also. Thank you Mr. President.

WATER/W.P.C.

MR. SFERRA: Thank you Mr. President. I'll be pulling out Draft 3054 tonight for passage. It's a sewer increase of the four dollars and some cents a month. I'll bring it out for passage and then I'll make an amendment eliminating the section for the automatic consumer price increases every year. It will be just a one time increase. We can visit that later if Council wishes, but tonight we're going to eliminate that section. Thank you Mr. President.

LEGISLATIVE

MISS SAFFOLD: Thank you Mr. President. The Legislative Committee held a meeting this past Monday, Sept. 20th where we held a preliminary discussion regarding some possible changes. These changes involved possibly increasing fines for various ordinances that are on the books. Mainly having street numbers on homes; vacant dwellings required to be secured; noxious weeds and required grass cutting. Also there was discussion regarding increasing fees for massage parlors. What we decided, I believe, is that we needed to come up with a plan of enforcement before we actually decide to increase some of these fees. So we asked the administration to report to us in two weeks and give us a plan as to how we can actually start enforcing some of these rules that we have on the books. Thank you.

FINANCE

MR. NOVAK: Thank you Mr. President. The Finance Committee met yesterday. We reviewed today's agenda. There were not recommendations made on any of the drafts that are on the agenda for tonight. At a previous meeting there was a recommendation made on the increase in the wastewater rates and there was a majority of that meeting was concerning Draft 3054 and I think this is something that I'm glad we had a lot of discussion on, a lot of questions, a lot of concerns and this is the way we need to deal with especially a city-side issue like this that affects the constituents here in the City of Warren.

I have one quick question. I just wanted to refer to the Mayor. I was just wondering on our next round of the neighborhood stabilization program, what time frame we're looking at that. If we're going to see a recommendation coming back to the city or an answer as to whether we will be available for those funds again?

MAYOR O'BRIEN: First of all I'll answer the first part of the Neighborhood Stabilization III which we're unlike Youngstown, Youngstown's an entitlement city, we're in more of the formula but Michael has a better date on when that will be. Mr. Keys.

MR. KEYS: Mr. President, Councilman Novak we will probably be receiving NSP III money as in NSP I we will be getting our share from the state. So it will come through Columbus and although the announcements have been made to the entitlement cities, what they're getting, the state has not yet made that announcement on how much is coming through. We're also still waiting on the rules and regulations that come along with that from HUD. I don't see them being much different. I will tell you the scuttlebutt coming to me from some of the field offices is that HUD is going to try to limit the amount we can spend on demo's with this round of 10% and I'm also it is my understanding that we may also get a waiver on that. We have not received all those full rules and regulations yet. When we do I'll make a report to Council.

MR. NOVAK: Thank you Mr. Keys. Thank you Mayor. Thank you Mr. President.

MRS. RUCKER: Thank you Mr. President. That great John May just walked in the room and I wanted to acknowledge him.

MR. KEYS: You're a proud member of the CD staff.

**STRATEGIC
PLANNING**

MR. DEAN: Thank you Mr. President. The Strategic Planning Committee will meet on the 30th of September at 6 PM for the sole purpose of discussing Draft 3068. Request the Mayor, the Safety-Service Director, the Law Department Director, the Auditor, all interested Council Members, members from the Strategic Planning Group, any other interested persons. Again, that is September 30th at 6 PM. Thank you Mr. President.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

**NEIGHBORHOOD
LIAISON**

MR. COLBERT: Thank you. The Neighborhood Liaison Committee last week, they did another clean-up on West Market Street which was spearheaded by the Southwest Neighborhood Association in conjunction with Weed and Seed. We had participants from across the city as well as participants from Warren G. Harding as well as we had an individual who came over from Southington as well as someone who found out about this from Howland who came over to give us a hand. I want to thank everyone for their efforts last weekend.

I also want to acknowledge the meeting that we had to discuss Make A Difference Day. It seems that many of our groups within the city already do have plans for Make A Difference Day which is great. What I would encourage individuals or groups to do is if you have a project planned for Make A Difference Day to please let Marly know so she can make sure to include it in a story about Make A Difference Day here in Warren.

With that said I'm going to follow up on something Miss Saffold said, I find it ridiculous that our citizens take it upon themselves to go out and clean private property and three weeks later they go past that same property and it looks like they did nothing. We understand that there is an enforcement problem and I have told Miss Saffold I will be her teammate in going forward to try to find ways to enforce this. We cannot just rest on the idea that sorry, we don't have enough money. We are all smart people. If we can all get in to a room we can all sit down and find a way to be able to enforce the current ordinances that are on the books. I'm sure between the Law Department, the Health Department and administration and help from Council as well as concerned citizens we will no longer allow our citizens to do work in this city and for it to go in vain. Thank you very much Mr. President.

MR. DEAN: And thank you Council Member Brown to invite the engineer to the September 30th meeting. You're welcome, please come.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

No speakers this evening.

LEGISLATION FOR FIRST READING

**DRAFT 3068
NEED FOR CITY
PLANNER**

An ordinance for the purpose of authorizing the Mayor and the Director of Public Service and Safety to enter into contract(s) with a qualified consultant for the purpose of that consultant developing and making recommendations to the City of Warren relative to (in light of the city's citywide comprehensive development plan) the need for a city planner, the duties and responsibilities of any such position, the job description,

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qualifications and salary range for any such position, and related matters and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Dean requests the clerk to read Draft 3068 and place it in first reading..

READ

Clerk reads same.

REF: Council as a Whole

PRESIDENT MARCHESE: That meeting will be Tuesday, October 12th at 6:30 PM in addition to the meeting that the Council chairman has called.

LEGISLATION FOR PASSAGE

DRAFT 3064 SISTER CITY RELATIONSHIP

A resolution for the purpose of establishing a sister city relationship between Warren, Ohio and Dezhou, China.

Miss Saffold requests the clerk to read the title on Draft 3064.

READ

Clerk reads same.

MOTION-SUSPEND
THREE READINGS

Motion Saffold, second Dippolito to suspend the rule requiring three readings on Draft 3064.

ROLL CALL

YES: Flask, Saffold, Colbert, Sferra,
Rucker, Dean, Dippolito, Novak, Brown, Morn

NO: None.

MOTION PASSED

10 YES; 0 NO. Motion passed.

MOTION FOR PASSAGE

Motion Saffold, second Novak to pass Draft 3064.

REMARKS

MAYOR O'BRIEN: Thank you Mr. President. Thank Councilwoman Saffold for sponsoring this resolution. Now a Councilman is going to ask, what does this have to do with the City of Warren? Presently there's a young, excuse me, not so young, there's a woman in Shandong Province in China presently. She's representing the Youngstown-Warren Regional Chamber and she's going to be there for a month. As she was there and she's primarily in Dezhou, she was asked for a relationship between the cities of Youngstown and Warren as far as sister cities relationship with that city in that province. There seems to be some keen interest in that particular province and they had a delegation two months ago for a week in the Youngstown-Warren area. And the benefits that aside from mutual cooperation are significant with technical small business development in a relationship with the Chinese province and the Youngstown-Warren area. The Youngstown-Warren Regional Chamber had been to that particular province four different times and will continue to go there for small business development and bringing back to the United States and primarily in the Mahoning Valley. So it was asked that we form a sister city relationship as well as the City of Youngstown and I want to thank Councilwoman Saffold and thank City Council for this. Thank you.

ROLL CALL

YES: Flask, Saffold, Colbert, Sferra, Rucker
Dean, Dippolito, Novak, Brown, Morn

NO: None.

PASSED
RES. 4474/10

10 YES; 0 NO. Motion passed. Draft 3064 is now RES. 4474/10.

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**DRAFT 3065
CODIFIED
REPLACEMENT PAGES**

An ordinance to revise the codified ordinances by adopting current replacement pages and declaring an emergency.

Miss Saffold requests the clerk to read the title on Draft 3065.

READ

Clerk reads same.

MOTION-SUSPEND
THREE READINGS

Motion Saffold, second Dippolito to suspend the rule of three readings on Draft 3065.

ROLL CALL

YES: Flask, Saffold, Colbert, Sferra, Rucker,
Dean, Dippolito, Novak, Brown, Morn

NO: None.

MOTION PASSED

10 YEAS; 0 NO. Motion passed.

MOTION FOR PASSAGE

Motion Saffold, second Novak to pass Draft 3065.

REMARKS

None.

ROLL CALL

YES: Flask, Saffold, Colbert, Sferra, Rucker,
Dean, Dippolito, Novak, Brown, Morn

NO: None.

PASSED
ORD. 12291/10

10 YES; 0 NO. Motion passed. Draft 3065 is now ORD. 12291/10.

**DRAFT 3066
2011 CDBG**

An ordinance for the purpose of authorizing the filing of the thirty-seventh year application for a Community Development Block Grant and the twentieth year application for the Home Program under the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, and National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, setting forth the projects and priorities thereunder for the year 2011, authorizing plans and specifications and contracts to accomplish said purposes upon approval of the funding therefore, establishing the budget for the FY 2011 Action Plan for Housing and Community Development and declaring an emergency.

Mrs. Rucker requests the clerk to read the title on Draft 3066.

READ

Clerk reads same.

MOTION-SUSPEND
THREE READINGS

Motion Rucker, second Saffold to suspend the rule of three readings on Draft 3066.

ROLL CALL

YES: Flask, Saffold, Colbert, Sferra, Rucker,
Dean, Dippolito, Novak, Brown, Morn

NO: None.

MOTION PASSED

10 YES; 0 NO. Motion passed.

MOTION FOR PASSAGE

Motion Rucker, second Dippolito to pass Draft 3066.

REMARKS

None.

ROLL CALL

YES: Flask, Saffold, Colbert, Sferra, Rucker,
Dean, Dippolito, Novak, Brown, Morn

NO: None.

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PASSED
ORD. 12292/10

10 YES; 0 NO. Motion passed. Draft 3066 is now ORD. 12292/10.

**DRAFT 3067
EXTENDING
DEADLINE**

A resolution for the purpose of extending the reporting deadline of the citizens ad hoc committee for the Packard Music Hall.

Mr. Novak requests the clerk to read the title on Draft 3067.

READ

Clerk reads same.

MOTION-SUSPEND
THREE READINGS

Motion Novak, second Rucker to suspend the rule requiring three readings on Draft 3067.

ROLL CALL

YES: Flask, Saffold, Colbert, Sferra, Rucker,
Dean, Dippolito, Novak, Brown, Morn

NO: None.

MOTION PASSED

10 YES; 0 NO. Motion passed.

MOTION FOR PASSAGE

Motion Novak, second Saffold to pass Draft 3067.

REMARKS

None.

ROLL CALL

YES: Flask, Saffold, Colbert, Sferra, Rucker,
Dean, Dippolito, Novak, Brown, Morn

NO: None.

PASSED
RES. 4475/10

10 YES; 0 NO. Motion passed. Draft 3067 is now RES. 4475/10.

THIRD READING

**DRAFT 3054
INCREASE SEWER
RATES**

An ordinance for the purpose of repealing and reenacting subsection (b) (1) OF Section 925.03 (Charges Levied) of the codified ordinances of the City of Warren for the purpose of providing increased sewer rates for users of the city's sewer system and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Sferra requests the clerk to read the title on Draft 3054.

READ

Clerk reads same.

MOTION TO AMEND

Motion Sferra, second Dean to amend Draft 3054 by omitting the last paragraph at the bottom of page 2 and sections 1 through 3 at the top of page three.

ROLL CALL

YES: Flask, Saffold, Colbert, Sferra, Rucker,
Dean, Dippolito, Novak, Brown, Morn

NO: None.

MOTION PASSED

10 YES; 0 NO. Motion passed.

MOTION FOR PASSAGE

Motion Sferra, second Novak to pass Draft 3054A.

REMARKS

MR. FLASK: Thank you Mr. President. Having been late to Caucus, I apologize to my colleagues. I'm going to pass this legislation tonight with the amendment, but there's a greater issue here and we all know that. I believe that this department needs this increase, but I'm not sure if it's 27% and certainly we need to take a look at the fact that the first thing that we're doing is raising rates. I, I've heard a lot of reasons, comments, we got a report, you know things said as far as fewer

accounts go. In my personal business just because I have fewer customers doesn't mean I get to charge everybody else more. If that was the case, I would go to work one day and charge one customer fifty thousand dollars and go home. I realize that private business and in the public sector or the private and public sector are different. But we can't let this go. I was happy to hear my colleague mention the fact of the proposed legislation on property owners. I will support that and I hope to see that move forward quickly because if it doesn't and we don't address these other issues, I will be asking to rescind this. Thank you.

MR. NOVAK: Thank you Mr. President. I echo my colleagues' comments. My greatest concern is that with this growing need for revenue and having a debt service that must be taken care of, we must not allow the general fund to become a source of money to pay this. Not with having the situation that we have, thank God we got our SAFER. We're still going to have police laid off. But again, we must be careful here when we look at increases as my colleague mentioned and for a reminder of those who were not at yesterday's Finance meeting, again the near past and within the last decade, councilmatic action or administrative action or court action, we have seen special accounts increased. We've seen court costs raised three times. License plate fees have been raised. Now we are looking at water rates. We've raised the deposits. We've instituted towing fees. We've increased building permit fees. We have the highest fees in the county. We've also had to raise environmental fees, storm water fees and our residents have had to deal with raises in electric, gas, auto fuel, dog licenses, property tax and we all know what happens when you go to the grocery store. But there comes a time when you have to make decisions that might not be popular but you have to weigh the situation.

But I am supporting this and I know we will be getting our information when we ask in a continued review of this knowing we have the 2011 budget right around the corner from us. Thank you Mr. President.

MR. BROWN: Thank you Mr. President. In the back room we spoke about next week passing an ordinance for establishing landlord liability for unpaid bills of tenants. I'd just like to read a passage from the booklet that we were given by the URS for the 2010 rate study. It says an examination, if you look on page 216, an examination of the arrears is shown, shows a lot of money that has not been collected in a timely basis. Table 2-5 shows the amount owed from the active accounts and Table 2-6 shows the amount owed from non-active accounts. The combined total is 598,155 dollars. A portion of the uncollected bills in Table 2-5 and 2-6 can be attributed to rental properties. It has been difficult for the city to recover these losses with renters constantly moving in and out of these properties.

And then when you go back to the performance audit of 2003 it's even a more gross total. On page 3-25 of the 2003 performance audit it states in addition the city could experience a one time increase in collections of approximately 1 1/2 million dollars by retroactively certifying eligible accounts. Based on 2.1 million on overdue accounts over 120 days and assuming that 600,000 dollars attributed to bankruptcies will not be collectable. However, various factors could impact the city's ability to collect up to 1.5 million dollars.

So I think that as our backs are to the wall with this because of our debt service, we need to look at our next meeting at passing that legislation. I appreciate everyone's concern. We'll visit that next meeting. Thank you.

ROLL CALL

YES: Flask, Saffold, Colbert, Sferra, Rucker, Dean, Novak, Brown, Morn

NO: Dippolito

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PASSED
ORD. 12293/10

9 YES; 1 NO. Motion passed. Draft 3054A is now ORD. 12293/10.

PRESIDENT MARCHESE: That concludes our legislation for this evening. Prior to miscellaneous we have some small remarks. I want to welcome, I see in the audience Mrs. Hartman, former 7th Ward Councilwoman. One of the hardest working Council people I've ever known in the 18 years I've been around. Sue, nice to see you.

As many of you know I'm on the Board of Directors of Leadership Mahoning Valley. I'm happy to announce, Mayor you know about this and all of us up here I think have been a class member in leadership. In the 2010-2011 term Warren will have the significance again of being the host city in government, which is always a pain in the neck, hospitals and in education. So that was very good news.

I apologize to Council for being late to Caucus. I was speaking at a conference out of town. I ran across some figures that directly relate to mental health decisions. Now these are, I tell you this only because I think the public should know what the eleven of us go through. These are people with existing mental health disorders because of the economic conditions. This is very scary. Domestic violence is up across the United States; pre-existing mental health conditions by 34%; anger and rage is up 39%; AOD is up is up 42%-alcohol and other drugs; untreated psycho-dynamic disorders because of a lack of medication is up a whopping 47%. People very simply can't afford neuroelectric medication not covered by many insurances. And Chief Nussle I thought of you when this happens, this is going to be extremely difficult, fire setting up 19% by people that are already existing the fire starting tendencies. Ken, that's got to be just horrible stuff. So I wanted to share those statistics with you. It's not becoming easier in the United States, in the cities.

MISCELLANEOUS 8:17 PM

MR. DIPPOITO

Thank you Mr. President. I want to follow up with a little thing it kind of makes me kind of proud. The Mayor mentioned earlier about a group from Youngstown going to that city in China. And I admit that just a week after that in fact he just returned shortly a few days ago, a group from Toledo did, the Mayor four or five other people, about eight people in total and what I'm really proud of is my son-in-law was one of them and he has a business in China as well as in this country. Thank you Mr. President.

MR. NOVAK

Thank you Mr. President. I would like to mention I think seeing how passionate some of our city employees are here especially I know Mr. Titus has been at the forefront along with Chief Nussle and other blank members in the fire department on seeking this SAFER Grant and thank God that we did receive this because it's something that we need and deserve and hopefully it's going to take some very creative financing in our near future which we're going to need to start working on very soon to make sure that we can keep all of those firemen that are called back and new firemen employed. And I know it's going to be difficult but I know with the help of our congressman and with the help of our auditor and those that are involved, we will be able to accomplish it.

One other thing I'd like to bring is last week I lost one of my constituents Tom Bator passed away last week. And I know sometimes Tom could be a pain in the ass, but aren't we all? But I happen to see him that morning when he went later that day he passed away, but I never found a person that was more committed. Out every day with his dog Princess picking up trash. Helped me cut grass; helped elderly neighbors cut grass. Was passionate about art; was one of the people who restored the Coca-Cola sign down here on the building and the last

time I talked to him as President Marchese brought up the people's mental situation here in the city, he'd about given up. He said I live in the home my grandfather built. He said I've been robbed there; I've been beat up; I've been threatened. He said I'm just going to quit paying on the house and I'm going to go move in with my brother. So I know this man was down and I'm sure it contributed to his death at a young age of 61. But this is what we must deal with here as Council Members and the city administration that there are some people out there that are just so frustrated, so down, are afraid and don't know what to do. So it makes our job tougher, sometimes I myself think is it really worth it. But it's a job we have to do and I think with this SAFER money coming and hopefully our NSP money coming I think with that help and with God's help I think we're going to turn this city around. I think we've bottomed out and a lot of people think that you know wow is it only us and spending time the last two years in Warren, Michigan and seeing the 'Motor City', the city of Detroit went from 2 ½ million people is now down to a little bit over 700,000 people. They have over 40,000 empty residential, commercial and industrial buildings. So this city, this state and our country's got a lot of work to do. But I know we'll all pull together and we can't depend too much on the greatest generation cause they're all getting real old. So we gotta pick up and pace and take care of business. So we gotta long job ahead of us. Thank you Mr. President.

MR. BROWN

Thank you Mr. President. I have two things. I have a constituent in the audience who's here with concerns on a roofing job that she's trying to complete and I'd ask that the Mayor, the Director and the Engineer meet in the back room with her and I for just one moment.

And also I'd like to remind everyone that Michael Stanley will be at Packard this Saturday evening to benefit SCOPE and Hospice of the Valley. It will be a great evening in Warren. Prior to that there's a, prior to the concert there's a progressive dinner that's being held downtown. I think it's starting at Blue Magoo going on to Pizzaitalia with dinner at Saratogo and desserts at the Mocha House and also a ticket for a beverage later at the Horseshoe. So you could, Mr. Dean's holding up-

MR. DEAN: I have tickets.

MR. BROWN: I think it will be a great evening in Warren. And hope to see you all there. Thank you.

MR. FLASK

Thank you Mr. President. I'd like to announce that the Southeast Side Community Association will be meeting at the White Hall on the corner of Milton and Willard, Thursday, September 23rd at 6 PM and there will be guest speaker representative from the Lloyd McCoy Health Center. Thank you.

MISS SAFFOLD

Thank you Mr. President. First of all I would like to congratulate Mr. Conley and I believe he had to leave early, President of the Warren Urban League, celebrating the 80th anniversary of existence. I know myself, the Mayor and Director Franklin were at the celebration and was it a celebration. The speaker was US Congressman Klyburn who did a terrific job. If Mr. Conley were here I would congratulate him in person, but we can pass the work on.

Also I will be having a ward meeting next Monday which is the 27th at York Street Church which is located in Warren in the 6th Ward. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MARCHESE: That's the-

MISS SAFFOLD: 27TH.

PRESIDENT MARCHESE: What time?

MISS SAFFOLD: 6 PM.

MR. COLBERT

Thank you Mr. President. Earlier today I got to speak with the Fire Department and congratulate them on their grant so with Council's please I would like to divert my time to Mrs. Hartman if she would like to say a couple words to the Fire Department.

MRS. HARTMAN: Thank you. I actually spoke to the Fire Department today, the chief and to Marc Titus and thanked them for a job well done. They've worked very hard for two years. We've had some people that have worked to get us grants that are no longer with the department. We were lucky we had one of our members who left to start a new job; he came back. I will tell you that I sent e-mails to Congressman Ryan myself. I would encourage all of you to get involved in doing that because you still have police officers out there. So as great as it is that we have our fire back or will have it back; we do not have safety in Warren yet. Thank you.

MR. COLBERT: Thank you Mr. President.

MRS. RUCKER

Thank you. I'd just like to echo Sue in thanking the Fire Department because when those guys got laid off the whole department it seemed like was working on ways of getting their union members back to work and getting new equipment and finding grants and helping this city. So they really did a yeomen's job. So kudos to everybody that works at the Fire Department.

I'm glad that Mr. Novak mentioned Tom Bator, it's true that a lot of people didn't like him, but I did. You know first time I met him he was at the Animal Welfare League helping out there and he used to go around the city and he would see things wrong and he would fix them himself. Sometimes he got frustrated and came to Council and called us up blasting us out. But he did that because he really cared about the city and I think Tom is really going to be missed.

Another person that is really going to be missed for me is somebody who really impacted my life starting when I first moved to the west side at First Street School a woman came to the school and invited me to come to her house for a tea party, and I thought rich people always want you to come over to their house for a tea party. I and about five other girls did go and from that day until last Friday that woman has meant so much to me. I'm talking about Mrs. Margaret Dennison. She did so much for the city and I just have to ready something. If you don't know here you just don't know how she impacted not only our city and our county and our state. Margaret was elected to the Ohio Legislature in 1962 and this was a post she held until 1968 when she decided against running for her 4th term. She sponsored a bill that built Kent State University, Trumbull Campus and she co-sponsored legislation which gave Youngstown College state university status. Margaret helped to design and fund a children's services board, Trumbull County. She renovated a complex of century distinctive homes and you should see the, they're just gorgeous. She was also a landscaper too. She bought the Austintown Leader and when it became a successful newspaper she sold it to the Niles Times. She was elected in 1978; she was appointed in 1978 to the unexpired term of Commissioner vacated by Lyle Williams and she won successive terms until 1984. She worked with her mother to make a gift of the Gillmer House and gave it to the Trumbull Art Gallery, Art Guild. She was a Republican Committee woman and active in the party for most of her career. And she was a strong support of the southern property lawn center and nature conservatory. She is having a private funeral entorement at Oakwood Cemetery and she asked for no calling hours. What she did ask us to do is raise a glass in her, a martini glass in her honor which Council will do tonight when we retire this evening. Thank you Mr. President.

MR. DEAN

Thank you Mr. President. I've often said the most fun I had in Council was when I sat next to you and when I heard your remarks, some might have guessed why. Good to see you. I'd also like to congratulate Mr. Hicks, he has now joined the retired military family. It's good to see you in that family and I hope you enjoy every minute of it.

I do recall sitting next to Mrs. Hartman and I had Phil Romain on my left and I often remind this Council that Phil Romain every Council meeting would say something about veterans. And I remember when Gary Fonce was sitting in this seat and the three of us had the conversation about what we could really do to help veterans. And you've heard me mention that there's a nursing home in Sandusky and another nursing home in Mt.Horab and that's a long way to drive for any of us. But there is a closer facility that is absolutely a sparkling facility. It's a residential home for homeless veterans and to any of you that would like to make a contribution let me know. I'll give you a list of what they need which includes by the way: bowling passes, laundry detergent, a riding mower if you have one, any old vehicles, gas cards, spices, peppers, coffee, zip-lock garbage bags, paper towels, those kind of things. If you get them to me, I will make sure they get to Kent, Ohio. Those are guys who are re-entering themselves in the mainstream society and they are very good at what they do. I thank you Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MARCHESE: Thank you Mr. Dean. What was the name of that organization if people want to contribute?

MR. DEAN: It is the Family and Community Service Center and the Director is Matt Slater. If they have goods I will be happy to bag them up, put them in my care and drive them over.

PRESIDENT MARCHESE: Very good. Mr. Novak.

MR. NOVAK: Thank you Mr. President. Just like to add one quick thing to Councilwoman Rucker's eulogy about Margaret Dennison. I knew Margaret well she went to Christ Episcopal Church, my church and I will say this, she's the only Republican I ever voted for.

MRS. RUCKER: Me too.

MR. NOVAK: And she was one of the commissioners that said don't buy the Stone Building, it's a white elephant. Thank you Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MARCHESE: Thank you Mr. Novak. I personally thought Reagan was a pretty good president.

MOTION TO ADJORN

MOTION TO ADJOURN Motion Rucker, second Novak to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 PM.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:33 PM

Robert A. Marchese, President of Council

Darla K. Neugebauer, Clerk of Council, C.M.C.
