

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
MASSILLON CITY COUNCIL  
HELD MONDAY, JANUARY 7, 2019**

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Welcome to the Massillon City Council Meeting for Monday, January 7, 2019. We have in attendance with us the following city officials: Mayor Kathy Catazaro-Perry and her Assistant, Linda Benson, Safety Service Director, Joel Smith, Auditor, Jayne Ferrero, Law Director, Andrea Scassa, Chief Engineer, David Krock, Community Development Director, Lori Boron, Economic Development Director, David Maley, Park & Recreation Director, Steve Pedro, Police Chief, Keith Moser, Fire Chief, Tom Burgasser, Income Tax/Budget Director, Barb Sylvester, Wastewater Treatment Plant Manager, Tony Ulrich, Park and Recreation Board Member, David Harding, Chief Building Inspector, Frank Silla, Code Enforcement Officer, Jimmy Johnson, Housing Director, Beverly Lewis and Street Superintendent, Lee McBride. On the wall to the left are agendas if you wish to follow the meeting. Also, if you look at the agenda, under item #5 is where the public can speak on any item that appears on tonight's agenda and then under item #17 is where the public can speak on any item that does NOT appear on tonight's agenda. I want remind anyone with cell phones, please turn them down or set them to vibrate.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Roll call.

**1. ROLL CALL**

Roll call for the evening found the following Council Members present: Milan Chovan. Jill Creamer, Sarita Cunningham, Dave Irwin, Ed Lewis, Linda Litman, Paul Manson and Megan Starrett.

Roll call of 8 present

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Councilman Manson

**COUNCILMAN MANSON** – I make a motion that we excuse Councilman Gregg.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Seconded by Councilman Chovan. Roll call.

8 yes to excuse Councilman Gregg

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Councilman Gregg has been excused. Councilman Manson.

**COUNCILMAN MANSON** – Yes. I'd like to ask that we stand and have a moment of silence for former Councilman Donnie Peters who passed away over the weekend.

**2. INVOCATION**

Moment of silence for former Councilman Donnie Peters

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**LED BY COUNCILMAN MANSON**

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Thank you, Councilman Manson.

**4. READING OF THE JOURNAL**

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Madam Clerk, are the minutes of the previous meeting transcribed and open for public viewing?

**COUNCIL CLERK ROLLAND** – Yes, they are.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Are there any additions or corrections?

**COUNCIL CLERK ROLLAND** – No, there are not.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Then the minutes stand approved as written.

5. **REMARKS OF DELEGATIONS AND CITIZENS TO MATTERS ON THE AGENDA**

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Seeing none, Councilman Manson.

**COUNCILMAN MANSON** – Yes, thank you, Madam President. I make a motion to amend the agenda so that the Mayor can give her presentation first.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Seconded by Councilman Irwin. Roll call.

8 yes to amend the agenda for the Mayor to give her State of the City Address before Item #6

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Thank you, Madam Clerk. The agenda has been amended. Madam Mayor.

**MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY** – Thank you, Madam President, Council. Good evening. First of all, we have President of Council, Claudette Istnick, Ward 1, Sarita Cunningham, Ward 2, Dave Irwin, Ward 3, Mike Gregg, Ward 4, Jill Creamer, Ward 5, Megan Starrett, Ward 6, Linda Litman and Council at Large, Paul Manson, Milan Chovan and Ed Lewis IV. Our other elected officials are Auditor, Jayne Ferrero, Treasurer, Maude Slagle and Law Director, Andrea Scassa. My Administration includes Director of Public Service and Safety, Joel Smith, Building and Zoning, Frank Silla, Budget and Income Tax, Barb Sylvester, Community Development, Lori Kotagides-Boron, Economic Development, David Maley, Engineering, Jason Popiel (OHM), Fire Department, Tom Burgasser, Health Department, Terri Argent, Housing Department Beverly Lewis, IT Department, Mike Bussan, (BPI), Operations/Street Division, Lee McBride, Park and Recreation, Steve Pedro, Police Department, Keith Moser and Wastewater Treatment Department, Tony Ulrich. (Applause). They have such passion to serve our community and they strive for excellence in everything they do and I could not be more proud of this group of directors. I would also like to acknowledge and thank OHM who's in the audience and BPI. They both have been outstanding partners to work with and we look forward to working with you again in 2019. The Directors and our Safety and Service Director, Joel Smith and I have focused on fiscal responsibility as well as City Council. The budget has been balanced for the years I have been Mayor and will continue to be in our future. The Administration has not only focused on each account, but we have also focused on replacing vehicles, improving our infrastructure and city-owned buildings as well as a maintenance plan for our vehicles. The carryover, if you look at this slide, you can see our cash carryover after encumbrances. Last year, we reported a 4.3-million-dollar carryover and this year, we will report a 2.7 hundred-thousand-dollar carryover and we're very pleased with that amount. The total income in the General Fund Revenue has steadily increased. The increase of other revenues is due to the sale of the Lincoln Way property that we acquired with the sell of the hospital as well-earned interest, a Workers Comp. refund, NIP reimbursements, the Sippo Dam grant and our EMS services. Our overall income tax collections are up and the total for 2018 is \$20,890,000. In 2016, we created a Stabilization Fund and started out with \$300,000 in it. Today, we have \$360,000 that is placed in the fund. This fund will continue to grow to allow the City to be prepared for when the economy turns downward. The City should and must be fiscally responsible and plan for this to occur. Our financial goal for our City has also been the carryover 15%-20% of our General Fund certification. All of the numbers that I will give you tonight are after encumbrances. 2014, the carryover was \$785,000 and that was about 3%. 2015, the carryover was about 1.9 million and that was at a 9%. 2016, the carryover was \$2,800,000 and there we jumped to 13%. And in 2017, our carryover was 4.3 million-dollars and that was a 20% and that's what we're striving for; between 15%-20% carryover. We also utilized some of the carryover money that was appropriated by City Council to pave roads, place new catch basins and also to provide renovations for Fire Station No. 3. And again, the carryover for 2018 is \$2,708,718.30 which is a 12%. So, between that 15%-20%, this year we're at 12%. Had we not spent money on the fire station and on our roads and catch basins, it would be much greater than that. But we felt that it was important to take care of our infrastructure in our City. The General Fund in 2012, the first year I was in office, we had a 99.75% allocated to the General Fund and .25% to capital improvement and we knew that the capital improvement fund required much attention and much improvement. So, we set a goal for our future and to take small steps to achieve the goal and the goal is 2014 we had 99.5 and a .5%. Dave, I think you're ahead a slide there. There we go, thank you. 2015, 99% and 1% went to capital improvement. 2016, we bumped it to 98% and 2% to capital improvement and as you can see, I won't bore you with all the details of all the years, but, in 2019, this year, we will have a 95% General Fund and a 5% in our capital improvement and we continue to plan to improve that as well. Why is that important? There are several

reasons. One of the main reasons is that the Capital Improvement Fund allows the City to fund projects, to improve a building, to buy equipment for our departments in the City and to move our City forward. This is an outstanding position for our City to be in as we move this percentage every year. The budgets have been balanced, the infrastructure improvements are being addressed and the City has a strong 5-year budget forecast. The fire station; we were able to purchase 2 Pierce Saber Fire Engines for the Fire Department and the cost is \$844,000 for both of those and we did that on a 7-year lease to purchase. The Police Department; we purchased 3 unmarked cars, 4 patrol cruisers, 1 transport van, 1 evidence van and added body cameras. The cost for the Police Department was \$252,000, almost \$253,000. The Street Department purchased 2 One-ton dump trucks, 1 garage lift and 1 global street sweeper. The cost for our Street Department was \$363,000, almost \$364,000. Our Safety Department; we purchased a bucket truck, a pick-up truck and 1 Lanelazer paint machine for the cost of about \$119,000. Another goal that we had set in our cheating was to have a vehicle replacement plan and to upgrade the vehicles in the departments. As stated above, we are working through that plan. New homes that were built in 2018 were 53 and this number is up from past years. In 2018, we had 28 homes and 10 condos and in 2016, 25 homes and 8 condos. And again, the number for 2018 was 53 homes. New residential; that amount totaled about \$7,196,000. So, those are new homes in our community \$7 million dollars. Dwelling Alterations; about \$3 million-dollars. New commercial was \$3,783,000 and that includes Arby's, KFC, Advanced Industrial Roofing, Akron Children's Doctors Office and Clinic, Massillon Middle School Concessions and locker room and Track and Field Storage Building. Our commercial alterations were \$6,000,000 and our new industrial was \$31,000,000. That will include Freshmark, TriCantor Building, the Shearer's warehouse, Vasco office addition and renovations and the FiberCorr Maintenance building. The total construction value for 2018 is \$56,000,000 reinvested in our community. Promises kept from the income tax increase in 2016 to pave \$1 million dollars, annually, on our roads has been kept. In 2016, the income tax was passed and we were able to put only \$700,000 down. The income tax was passed in August and that was the summer of. With an almost full amount for 2017, we were able to put down \$1,387,000 on our roads and in 2018, we put down \$1,972,000. Expectations for 2019, we will spend approximately \$4,058,000 on our roads and catch basins this year. This amount includes partnering with Stark County on Richville Dr. The project will be completed this year with OPWC funds at \$1,586,000. Our annual road paving costs are in there as well as catch basin repairs. We've also partnered with Perry Twp. for 27<sup>th</sup> St. N.E. and S.E. with OPWC funds. The City is also focused on Springhill under drains as well as Augusta Dr. under drains. Those under drains are either missing or in poor repair. So, we will be taking care of those this year. Springhill will be Phase II and Augusta will be Phase I. We will also be evaluating Castle West for future improvement as their under drains are either missing or in poor condition as well. The map from 2012 through 2018 of all the roads that have been paved is listed here. And each year is color coded to show the number of roads paved. Please look at the purplish area as well as the black areas as this depicts the tremendous number of roads that have been paved in 2017 and 2018. Now, we are making progress on our roads and we will continue to do that. We have probably \$25,000,000 that needs to be accomplished. So, you can see that even with the amount that we're doing with our income tax increase as well as our grant, it's still not enough. We still need to focus on our infrastructure and our roads and we will continue to do so. Our catch basins; there are approximately 5,226 catch basins and in 2012 to 2015, we spent about \$760,000 on 274 catch basins and that was over a 3-year period. 2016, we were able to really focus on this and we were able to fund \$435,000 on 203 catch basins. And in 2017 we spent \$500,000 on 354 catch basins. In 2018, we spent \$555,000 on 359 catch basins. So, for a total of 1,190 catch basins completed. Which means approximately 23% of our catch basins have been replaced or repaired. This year, the City will spend approximately \$500,000 on catch basins in 2019. The Engineering Department; we completed Southway project from Walnut Rd. S.E. to Jackson Ave. in conjunction with Stark County. We evaluated and rated all of the City streets and from this list, a City Road Improvement Plan is designed annually. We completed 2018 road paving projects. We repaired the 17<sup>th</sup> St. bridge in cooperation with ODOT. Tommy Henrich extension, the Sippo Creek Reservoir Dam was complete. We received a grant from ODNR to repair the Reservoir Dam and the Lincoln Way bridge is under contract in 2018 and will be replaced in 2019 with the oversight of our Engineering Department, OHM. We partnered with Aqua Ohio and Dominion Energy for projects throughout the City. We also hired 18 full-time employees and six part-time employees and there's the list of each department if you'd like to look at that. Our Community Development assisted several businesses with facades in downtown. 13 City homeowners received emergency funding for minor repairs and report that because I know J. David is recording us tonight and we have some members here in the audience and I report that because I think that's important so that our City residents understand that there is emergency funding for minor repairs. We also have 16 first-time homebuyers receiving

funding assistance to purchase their homes. So, we also have dollars allocated to help new families purchase their home or anyone who has purchased a home for the first time. Four homeowners received assistance for full rehab projects provided by the City's Housing Rehabilitation Program and the CAPER was accepted by HUD for 2018. The Sub Recipients for the not-for-profit of our HUD funds are listed here and they are busy looking at who will receive funding this year and a meeting was held and applications were received already for 2019. The Health Department initiated a program "Know your Numbers" and partnered with Austin Bailey Foundation for a grant. The nurses can instantly check blood pressure, blood glucose, cholesterol, BMI, etc. and that is all free of charge. Assisted CommQuest Services with a job training program for future food service workers providing free food safety training and education. And they also held a school supply drive and handed out over 353 bookbags for students in need. They also assisted and this is really important because many of our families when school break or Christmas break is here, some of our students don't have food over that break and they also assisted with the food drive and were able to collect over 1,400 pounds of food. The Police Department installed bullet-proof glass at the front counter. They added video camera improvements. Ethics training was completed by our officers as well as all full-time staff in the City. Officers trained and certified on rifles as well as shotguns. They participated in multiple community events and those are listed above. They were awarded the "Next 16 Most-Saluted" from Canary Security Services and State Farm Insurance and they received 50 home security systems for the officers. Our Fire Department; EMS savings to the residents was \$156,000. EMS responses, 6,057. EMS patients transported, 3,742 and we received two grants. One for heart monitors for \$130,000 and regionalized radios at \$282,000 and we also have a new speaker system for all of our stations. Major renovations for Fire Station No. 3 that will re-open in April 2019 have been going on. Our Park and Rec. Department; the Recreation Center received a new logo and website. New LED lights in the gym and fitness area as well as major pool upgrades. New fitness instructors and classes. New cardio equipment and the gym has painted. Our Parks Department welcomed Joe Pape as the new Park Superintendent. A new Ventrac ball field groomer, new maintenance tractor, new maintenance truck, new brush for Campbell walking track. Upgraded playground equipment throughout the parks and our Senior Center received new carpet that was desperately needed. Their memberships are up by 30% and they also held a senior prom and senior homecoming. The Legends also received an updated website and new clubhouse carpet. New green aerifier, increased banquet bookings at the Legends by 20%. They updated the banquet room and furnishings. Decreased the number of bunkers to improve play time and they acquired 11 new leagues for 2019. On January 5, 2018, we received notice that Affinity Medical Center would close approximately at 9:30 a.m. By 4:00 p.m., that afternoon I held a community physician, elected officials meeting in my office to understand the announcement. As moved through the shock of the announcement, we learned quickly that we needed outside counsel to assist the City. We hired Tzantos, Plakas and Mannos. One of the goals was to not end up like Doctors Hospital. May 16, 2019, an agreement was reached and the City purchased the hospital and assets from Quorum Health for \$1.00. We worked diligently to find an entity to utilize the hospital property that we acquired. On December 17, 2018, City Council passed legislation and accepted a Letter of Intent from Aultman Health Foundation to enter into an agreement regarding medical investment in services for Massillon and Western Stark County. We received information about the Sippo Creek Dam multiple years and we have applied for a grant, when we had our own engineer and we did not receive that grant. And then we were putting together a plan for the dam and we received a call that was urgent concerning our dam and the safety of it. So, the dam has been repaired to ODNR standards and the City recently received a letter stating that we are no longer under the jurisdiction of ODNR. The Park and Rec. Dept. will soon begin extensive clean up of the park as it was not safe to work on until the spring. And those pictures there, at the bottom is before and the top is after. So, I'd like for you to take a look at that, before and after. The NIP Program; we have had abandoned homes throughout the City and in 2018 we were able to tear down 30 houses, bringing the total of demolitions to 40 homes. We have 30 additional homes that are either approved or in the final stages of acquisition. To date, \$420,000 has been spent on demolitions. This cost includes cleanout, asbestos surveys and abatements and so far, we've been reimbursed \$203,000 in 2018. We strive to keep the public abreast of what is happening in the City and we do this in several ways. The City of Champions magazine is published bi-annually and distributed in The Independent. It also found at the Massillon Museum, the Library and many city offices. We also have a TV show called Massillon Today on MCTV, Channel 22 and it's produced monthly at no charge. We have a City website which is updated regularly and, on that site, we've been able to collaborate with the organizations and some businesses in our community to post City events as well as business and local events. If you go to that website, many resources and information is available for all of you in our community. Our social media consists of Facebook, Twitter and

Instagram. So, if you are one of those social media people, get out there and you can follow us. We also have had the honor and distinction of Massillon Downtown Historic District being listed on the National Register of Historic Places. We worked on this project for approximately two-years to accomplish this prestigious designation. The district includes 91 buildings and one City park. In addition, the City received Excellence in Preservation Education Award on May 22<sup>nd</sup> for the design guidelines for our historic downtown. The Cleveland Restoration Society and American Institute of Architect presented this prominent award at the Ohio Theatre in Cleveland. Several of our staff received awards this past year. Assistant Chief Heck was awarded the Ohio Fire Officer of the Year by the Ohio Dept. of Public Safety. Assistant Chief Paul Harbaugh was honored with an award of valor and Massillon resident, Ben Conley, received the Citizen of the Year award from the State Fire Marshal. And this was given to them for their heroic efforts at the house fire in Massillon on April 14, 2018. Also, firefighters Tim May and Jimmy Swain were presented the State Fire Marshal's Award for heroism after rescuing a child from a house fire on November 6, 2017. Imagine Downtown Massillon has been fully funded and will begin in 2019. This project is an economic development tool to assist new businesses to come into downtown and will ignite development and residential living in our downtown. Imagine Phase II, the revitalization of Duncan Plaza. This is to provide an amphitheater for downtown and to bring the concerts in off of Lincoln Way. Funding has been received from the State of Ohio capital budget and that number is \$750,000 and the capital campaign, the David Foundation awarded the City \$250,000, Stark Community Foundation, \$100,000 and \$50,000 from the Hoover Foundation. We continue to raise funds as we still need \$200,000 to fully fund this project. This area will also include an ice-skating rink and an outdoor seating area. We've recently launched a fundraising effort to raise funds for the Jake Roberson Memorial Splash Park in North Sippo. We have partnered with Phil and Sharon Roberson to bring mental health awareness to our community and to remember Jake, their son who struggled with mental health issues. He loved children and the water. The park will welcome children of all ages to enjoy playing in a free park and make lots of memories. We'd like thank all of our concert sponsors because without you, we could not bring residents and our visitors summer concerts. This past year we included an outdoor dinner on Duncan Plaza called Sax in the City and you'll see that again this year. In a world where you can be anything, be kind. We initiated a Kindness Committee because there were many suicides completed in a neighboring school and social media, many times, is very cruel and the campaign encourages our youth to be kind and to perform acts of kindness throughout their school days and are rewarded with "Kindness Bucks" and they could win possibly a prize. Our Police Dept. as well as our Firefighters, lunchroom monitors, many people have these throughout the City and we partnered with many other school districts as well. Canton City, Tuslaw, Perry, as well as Massillon City Schools. Currently, a poster contest is underway and the winners will be displayed on billboards sponsored by Stark Mar. A play will also be traveling around our school district to encourage kindness performed by our students. Several school districts kicked off the campaign with billboards dressed in kindness t-shirts and here you can see Perry, Tuslaw and Massillon schools united together. To conclude, the City has been very busy this past year. It has been a true honor and privilege to serve this great community with so many wonderful residents. I cannot put into words how proud I am of this Council, the directors, the staff and our elected officials, our businesses and organizations and our many residents. Massillon is a fantastic city full of passion, spirit and love. God bless each one of you and have a Happy New Year and a healthy New Year. Thank you.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Thank you, Mayor.

## 6. **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

**ORDINANCE NO. 1 – 2019**

**BY: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

AN ORDINANCE to approve current replacement pages to the Massillon Codified Ordinances, and declaring an emergency.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Councilman Manson.

**COUNCILMAN MANSON** – Thank you, Madam President. This is the first thing we do almost every year. It's routine where we bring all of our ordinances in our books. Unless there's some questions, I'll be moving for passage. Seeing none, I make a motion that we waive the rules requiring three separate readings and bring Ord. No. 1 – 2019 forward for passage.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Seconded by Councilman Chovan. Roll call for suspension.

8 yes for suspension

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – And for passage.

8 yes for passage

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 1 – 2019 has passed. Ord. No. 2 – 2019.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2 – 2019**

**BY: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

AN ORDINANCE amending Section 1151.02 of the Massillon Code of 1985 rezoning a certain tract of land from R-3 One Family Residential to PUD Planned Unit Development, and declaring an emergency.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Councilman Manson.

**COUNCILMAN MANSON** – Yes, thank you, Madam President. This particular ordinance has to go, well, a couple of things have to be satisfied. We have to send letters out to the residents in the area and also, we have to have a public hearing, public meeting about this and we have to give 30 days' notice which we have given notice and there'll be a public hearing on, what's the date, Diane, February what?

**COUNCIL CLERK ROLLAND** – February 4<sup>th</sup>, the first Monday in February.

**COUNCILMAN MANSON** – February 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. and then we'll be acting on it after that. So, first reading.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Thank you, Councilman Manson. Ord. No. 2 – 2019 has received first reading. Ord. No. 3 – 2019.

**ORDINANCE NO. 3 – 2019**

**BY: FINANCE COMMITTEE**

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the Mayor of the City of Massillon, Ohio, to accept a donation from Greif Board, Inc. on behalf of the Massillon Fire Department, and declaring an emergency.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Councilman Lewis.

**COUNCILMAN LEWIS** – Yes. This a pretty standard ordinance here. Greif Board is wanting to donate monies to the Massillon Fire Dept. and we just have to pass this to accept those dollars. Any questions or discussion? Seeing none, I make a motion that we suspend the rules requiring three readings, bringing Ord. No. 3 – 2019 forward for a vote.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Seconded by Councilwoman Starrett. Roll call for suspension.

8 yes for suspension

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – And for passage.

8 yes for passage

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 3 – 2019 has passed. Ord. No. 4 – 2019.

**ORDINANCE NO. 4 – 2019**

**BY: FINANCE COMMITTEE**

AN ORDINANCE reducing appropriations in the 1421 WWTP Upgrade Fund, the 3110 Massillon Museum Fund, the Community Health Services Fund and in the 3105 State Patrol Transfer Fund, for the year ending December 31, 2018, and declaring an emergency.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Councilman Lewis.

**COUNCILMAN LEWIS** – As the title states, there are multiple funds that need to be reduced tonight and that is just so we can balance out the 2018 accounts and moving them, essentially forward into 2019. Any questions or discussion this evening? Seeing none, I make a motion that we suspend the rules requiring three readings, bringing Ord. No. 4 – 2018 forward for a vote.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Seconded by Councilman Manson. Roll call for suspension.

8 yes for suspension

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – And for passage.

8 yes for passage

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 4 – 2019 has passed. Ord. No. 5 – 2019.

**ORDINANCE NO. 5 – 2019**

**BY: FINANCE COMMITTEE**

AN ORDINANCE making certain transfers in the 2018 appropriations from within the 1100 General Fund, for the year ending December 31, 2018, and declaring an emergency.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Councilman Lewis.

**COUNCILMAN LEWIS** – Yes. This particular transfer is going to our Fire Dept. to assist with salaries. Any questions or discussion this evening? Seeing none, I make a motion that we suspend the rules requiring three readings, bringing Ord. No. 5 – 2019 forward for a vote.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Seconded by Councilwoman Litman. Roll call for suspension.

8 yes for suspension

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – And for passage.

8 yes for passage

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 5 – 2019.

**7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**8. PETITIONS AND GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS**

A Thank You card from Law Director Andrea Scassa for the fruit basket in regards to the passing of her father.

A Request for a Liquor Agency Contract for Styx Acquisitions, LLC, located at 2226 Lincoln Way N.W., Massillon, Ohio 44647. This is a Liquor Agency only application and is located in Ward 6.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Councilwoman Litman, have you received a copy of this?

**COUNCILWOMAN LITMAN** – Yes, I have, thank you.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Thank you. It will be read into the record and referral to the proper councilperson has been done.

**9. BILLS, ACCOUNTS AND CLAIMS**

**10. REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS**

Approval of Mayor's Appointment of David Harding to Park & Recreation Board for the term 01/01/2019 to 12/31/2023

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Congratulations Mr. Harding.

**COUNCILMAN LEWIS** – Point of Order. It has to go to Councilwoman Creamer for a vote.

**COUNCILWOMAN CREAMER** – Thank you, Madam President. Are there any questions regarding this appointment? Seeing none, I make a motion that we accept the appointment of Mr. Dave Harding to the Park and Recreation Board.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Seconded by Councilman Irwin. Roll call.

8 yes to approve the Mayor's appointment of Dave Harding to the Park and Recreation Board for the term 01/01/2019 to 12/31/2023

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Thank you. Now, congratulations, Mr. Harding.

Mayor's Report - November 2018

**11. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Our next Work Session is going to be next Monday, January 14, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

**12. RESOLUTIONS AND REQUESTS OF COUNCIL MEMBER**

**13. CALL OF THE CALENDAR**

**14. THIRD READING ORDINANCE AND RESOLUTIONS**

**15. SECOND READING ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

**16. NEW AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Councilman Chovan.

**COUNCILMAN CHOVAN** – Thank you, Madam President. It's not new business. I just wanted to, if you're not already aware, that this week is National Law Enforcement Appreciation Week and I just wanted to recognize our Police Dept. and everybody else in the county that protects us. And I just wanted to thank them.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Thank you and thank you from the entire City Council. Anything else?

**17. REMARKS OF DELEGATIONS AND CITIZENS TO MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

**LETYCE NULL** – I live at 888 – 8<sup>th</sup> St. N.E., Massillon, Ohio. I've been there for 39 years my husband and I and my husband is deceased now. What I want to talk about is the hospital. I live right across the street from it. I've been there 39 years. I am very, very concerned about the hospital. I don't care what happens inside the hospital. I care about the grounds. This past summer I had bushes trimmed, grass cut and sprayed and I did not charge the City one cent. I paid it all on my own so that it could look nice. And that's not the only time that's ever happened. There's been many, many times. At one time, the hospital was closed for two years, but the ER was open and they kept it pretty nice. But this is the worse that I've ever, ever saw. This past summer around the parking lot on 8<sup>th</sup> St., there was weeds and they were over 4 ft. tall. Nobody did anything about it until my neighbors, we got together and called the City and they finally came and cut them down, but then they left the front; they didn't cut them down. I do appreciate the Mayor for what she's done for the hospital, trying to sell it, I do appreciate that a lot. But, the security there, I don't know what's going to happen to the security. If the security is not there, the hospital is going to end up exactly like Doctors Hospital; broken windows, trash and everything else that goes with it if it's abandoned. Security very, very important on this part. The lights, I really don't care. There has been some



lights already, that's fine, but it is the grounds. If the grounds are were kept nice, the hospital will look nice. Plus, just imagine, 39 years I've been there, my husband and I. We worked our butts off to have what we have. My house is paid for and if the grounds are not kept really nice, the value of the houses will go down. The value of our homes. Just this past week, I called into the City because it was nice weather for January and I said "Could you please send someone to come and pick up some of these leaves?". If you would go on 8<sup>th</sup> St., it is the worse. There's piles of leaves there. It looks terrible. I don't know what else to say. My last thing I want to say, just imagine if all of you lived right in that area across from the hospital where my neighbors, if you lived around that area, how would you feel? How you worked all your lives to have something nice and everything and then the hospital the way it looks right now. So, we need, I'll be glad to even, I'm a hard worker and I'll be glad that this spring, which I had been, I did pick up leaves right down by the parking; I did that already. I'll do anything. I'll even go out there, which I had been over the years, to take care of things. I'm not afraid to work. Thank you so much for listening and everybody have a good evening.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Thank you. Is there anybody else that would like to address Council?

**MARTHA BRENDELET** – I live at 892 – 8<sup>th</sup> St. N.E., Massillon, Ohio. And this is my neighbor and she's telling it as it is. She picks up the trash and everything and we try to keep and want to keep the value of our homes. The article in The Independent on December 29, 2018, about the City officials planning cost cutting measures at the hospital and winding down some of the bear minimum operations possibly in February are scary and hopeful to me. I was born in this hospital, I worked there for a time, had family members treated there and some passed away there and I am a neighbor of the hospital. The hospital's buildings deserve to be taken care of. Cutting cost should not mean letting it end up like Doctors Hospital, the Reservoir, the Fire Station and certainly not to be put into a landfill. I realize it has been quite a burden on the Council to try to make the hospital viable again. I recognize the Council members have families, their work and the City to take care of. I would like to know if an Ad Hoc Committee is being formed to work on the future of the hospital for repurposing? Surely there are some people with business fundraising or commercial planning experience that could work on this. It could be a community endeavor. Since the deal with Aultman limits the possibility for a hospital for the next five-years, repurposing all or part of this valuable asset should be considered. It could be utilized as a nursing home, rehab center, clinic for veterans, daycare for children or a daycare for the elderly, center for small businesses, public meeting rooms, job retraining center and maybe it could be a place for the 18-year old's put out by the foster system to live and guided as they enter the work force. Many neighborhoods in Massillon are decaying. The City's last care of the hospital should not contribute to this. Do not be short-sided, let's look long term. In Europe people and they work in old buildings. Some of them from the 17<sup>th</sup> century or older. I would like to see it published about how much a roof and a boiler would cost for the hospital. Please do not give up or take the easy way out. Let's use our talents and contacts to prove that a community can make something positive out of the terrible situation. I have a few questions here. What has happened to the granite memorial to Dr. Zultan Polami that was under a tree on the 8<sup>th</sup> St. parking lot of the hospital? He was my boss for 9 years and he was very well liked and was an excellent pathologist at the hospital, but that memorial has been missing for a few months. I don't know what happened to it. I am happy to hear that there are plans to display the statue from the nursing school in a prominent place in the City. But what has happened to any other memorabilia from our hospital's great history. There were many portraits of physicians who served our community. I hope they are in safekeeping somewhere. And lastly, many are also asking "What does Massillon City receive or does Massillon receive tax revenue from the Aultman West facility. Perhaps some of the answers could be publicized as well as informing the citizens of any ongoing plans the City Council is considering. This might help in getting more people involved and finding solutions.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Thank you, Martha. Is there anyone else?

**GEORGE GLIBA** – I live at 222 Lake Ave. N.E., Massillon, Ohio. I wanted to talk about this body of Council and this body of Council just for a minute about the hospital. Three or four weeks ago, I was in here and Ed was asking Mr. Plakas some questions about how long Aultman's been involved with this situation. He said February. So, from February to December, that's ten months, they've been just sitting over wanting to come to Massillon and between all your discussions which we don't know about, it took ten months to choose them to come over here? I just think that's complacency at the top level. Complacency. Massillon used to it. It's just like what she was talking about with the leaves. Massillon's used to it. It's

complacency. I talked to Joel about a month ago about 17<sup>th</sup> St. N.E. I don't know if they came out there and cleaned up all them leaves on 17<sup>th</sup>. It's not my job to go behind Joel to see if they did, but hopefully, they did. But, the point I'm trying to make is over the summer I talked about the parking lot down here where Bob Evans is and Menches' and everything else and I said there's this big sign out front of who's running the show over, who owns the property and I said it would be nice if somebody from City Council make a phone call because they're not going to listen to me. I've done figured that out. Nobody's going to listen to me. I've tried and tried, but it's just George. He comes up here and he's all negative. No, I'm not negative. I'm positive because I care about the City and I just get tired and I think the people in this community get tired the complacency. I mean, that's why the City Council is here, to represent us. To represent the City to make it look better than it is. All you've got to do is drive around and make a phone call. I mean, who're you going call for the City? Probably Lee McBride, but he was here earlier, but he left. So, I was hoping he would stay, but he left. But that is what it is. But then it comes back to they Mayor. I mean, I got a lot of respect for the Mayor, she's got all these things going on. Running the City, I couldn't even imagine running the City and all them personalities, come on man. That's hard to do, but, you know, but I'm just saying complacency is the problem, I think. And I'm one for acknowledging people when they're doing well and paying people what they're worth. Like David, when they were talking about him getting a raise, I was all for it because he's an asset. You people here are assets. You've lived here, you've grown up here. You know a lot of people here. So, what I'm trying to say is we want to try to get you raises this year, I would think, because the City is going so well from what the Mayor says. I mean, we got this cashflow and the coffers are pretty full and we're saving right now with salt. I mean, we haven't even had any snow, so we're saving money there. But, I'm all for, this year, giving this body a raise in pay, but also, to see some improvements, you know. And it just seems like I'm the one coming up here most of time and telling you what's going on with just the general maintenance of the City. So, I would just like to see things done faster because I just think 10 months, Aultman's been in the game and right now we find out. Because you know we got the Council-at-Large. What's wrong with the emergency meetings? This is an emergency. I mean, to me it was an emergency. The hospital's an emergency. 10 months? And then it's going to take how much longer to open after you clean everything and get everything ready and people employed? So, I'm just saying complacency is a huge problem with some of the people here. That's all I got to say, really. I mean you're doing a good job, but, come on man. Three to four weeks to fill a pothole. I've been down that road, trust me. Three to four weeks, Lake St., where I live. The busiest road in Massillon. Call Lee, and he says "We're swamped man, we're swamped". Give me the stuff, I'll do it if you're that swamped. How long is it going to take? So, that's pretty much all I got to say. Happy New Year and from the bottom of my heart I want to offer my condolences to Ms. Scassa here because I lost my Mom. It'll be 10 years February 12<sup>th</sup> and I still feel the pain, I'll tell you that right now. That's touch. So, anyways, sorry to hear that.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Thank you, George. Is there anyone else that would like to address Council?

**18. ADJOURNMENT**

**COUNCILMAN MANSON** – I move to adjourn.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK** – Seconded by Councilwoman Starrett. Meeting adjourned.

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DIANE ROLLAND, COUNCIL CLERK

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CLAUDETTE ISTNICK, PRESIDENT