MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
MASSILLON CITY COUNCIL
HELD TUESDAY, SETEMBER 3, 2019

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Welcome to the Massillon City Council Meeting for Tuesday, September 3, 2019. We have in attendance with us the following city officials: Mayor, Kathy Catazaro-Perry, Safety Service Director, Barb Sylvester, Law Director, Andrea Scassa, and Economic Development Director, Dave Maley. 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: Jill Creamer, Sarita Cunningham, Mike Gregg, Jason Harris, Dave Irwin, Ed Lewis, Linda Litman, Paul Manson and Megan Starrett.

Roll call of 9 present

2. **INVOCATION**

COUNCILMAN GREGG

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

LED BY COUNCILMAN GREGG

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 to be made?

COUNCIL CLERK ROLLAND – No, there are not.

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

COUNCILMAN MANSON – Yes, thank you, Madam President. We had an oversight on our agenda, so, I'd like to amend our agenda to put Res. No. 5 – 2019 on the agenda under Introduction of Ordinances and Resolutions.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Seconded by Councilman Lewis. Roll call.

9 yes to amend the agenda to reflect Res. No. 5 – 2019 to be added to the agenda

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Res. No. 5 – 2019 will appear after Res. No. 4 – 2019. I'd like to stray from the agenda just for a minute. We have Mr. Ray Hexamer, President/CEO of Stark Economic Development Board who would like to speak to us on strengthening Stark County.

RAY HEXAMER – Thank you. It's good to see you again. I just wanted to give you a quick update on what we're doing with strengthening Stark County. I used to be in radio; you'd think I would remember how to do that. Just giving you an idea on what's going on throughout the County. Stark Economic Development Board is funded by businesses; we're non-profit in the community and we also receive monies from foundations like County Commissioners and some governmental entities. So, our job is to help businesses grow; either the ones that are here or ones that we can attract to the area. So, I've been in the position two years; I spent 30 years in the private sector. So, was on the other side of the desk for this and it's been a great joy to see what's going on in Stark County. When I took this job, we looked at some of the trending like you would look at in a business and our community, Stark County, is getting older. The only age group that we're ahead of U.S. national average is 65+. We're getting poorer. Our poverty level's gone from 9% to 15% and we're getting smaller; at least projections show that. So, what can we do to turn that? If that was a company, you would want to try to do something different and that's what we've been doing for the last two years. So, throughout the community, all parts of the county, that we gather and we put a business plan together that we've been working on and the three pillars are, basically, business growth, talent, there's a big talent need that is probably an Achilles heel for some of our companies right now trying to find folks to work and then quality of life issues. So, we had sixteen initiatives and we know that six priorities in those three areas and are working on a variety of different things like, we put together a jobs database. So, we asked how many jobs and what jobs are open in Stark County and we do have that information. So now there's a starkdatabase.com that we can tell you how many jobs in Massillon. What kind of jobs are available? What educational level will be available and we can do that throughout the county because as the county rises so do all of the individual communities. That's one initiative. We're working on a jis system that through the Auditor's office that can look by neighborhood, look around the business and see what's available for people that are available for work, with daycare centers, with transportation and SARTA's available so we can tackily look at our neighborhoods and see what we can do to attract some of this or change some of this trending. Our focus at SCED in partnership with Dave and the Mayor is on business growth. So, we started to look at how many businesses do we have in Stark County? There are 15,900 businesses, 594 of those businesses are revenue of $7 million and above. So, how can we visit or get to as many as possible. So, we started two years ago working with our partners like Dave and the other communities, the City of Alliance, North Canton, to partner on calling on as many businesses as we could. So, two years ago we called on 70. Our goal this year is 225. We're at 145 right now. So, we're on track. But why is that important? There are state dollars that are available to our businesses if we can get to them, if they're expanding before they start a project. If we get to them after the project or they don't know that's available, that opportunity is gone with the State. The State through Jobs Ohio funds this through cigarette and liquor taxes. So, our goal is to get Stark County's unfair share of those dollars because they help our businesses grow. So, to give a little bit of a metrics, I gave you the calling outreach. We've created jobs that aren't listed here, but the only way we count them is if there is a contract with the State of Ohio and the business. The business has three years to deliver on metrics of cap X and jobs. So, to give you an idea

of where we're at, our goal this year was 600 new jobs contracted with the State; we're at 686 right now. We have a good funnel, there's about 12 other projects in chute and payroll on those 686 jobs is a little over $30 million. Cap X invested in those projects is $115 million, our goal is $100 million and our Jobs Ohio grants two and a half years ago was $135,000 for the county. It is just over $4 million dollars. So that calling effort in that work that we do in cooperation with Dave and the other economic developers, we feel is paying dividends that we hope to increase going forward. Attractions always helps them get new businesses and about 80% of the projects we get are from our current businesses. Your best chance to grow are the ones that are already here. It's very competitive outside this area. People get free land, huge tax incentives. Bringing companies in is very challenging. Sometimes it takes, we've been working on one in Alliance for over a year. So, it's hand-hand combat. You got to have the land and you have to have incentives in place and it's very competitive. We've done some things this year to be more outreach oriented. So, we started a social media campaign. The commissioners gave us a grant and two of the sites that we pushed was the Massillon Energy site which is the DiPetro site which we think has great potential and the county farm where Hendrickson just announced that they were expanding. So some of the things that we're trying to do differently to help move this forward. Finally, I'd like to thank Dave and the Mayor and you. Any time we've come to you with a project, you guys have responded quickly which helps us. Dave and I were on a call this morning with a company that had nothing to do with growth but, more with talent and it's a very important company that if we don't help them solve their talent issues it creates an issue that the company may look at other markets for those jobs. We've worked in other communities, not Massillon, with issues with utilities. One issue was that somebody had found a vacant house and setup a drug house that was right next to a business, so we worked with that city to help close that. So, economic development is a wide variety of things, but the bottom line is that we leave a business with what Dave does, what the Mayor does is how can we help you? What can we do to keep you here? What can we do to help you grow here? So, I just wanted to stop quickly and thank you for all of your support and we appreciate what you do. The Mayor sits on our Governments Committee which is the Strengthening Stark Governments Committee is representatives from all over the community working on the Strengthening Stark project and I am also lucky enough to have Bob Gessner as the chair with SEDB who's been a great representative and helped us move this initiative forward. So, thank you for your time.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Mr. Hexamer, if they have any questions, can answer?

REX HEXAMER – Yes, I'd be happy to answer anything.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilwoman Litman.

COUNCILWOMAN LITMAN – You mentioned starkdatabase.com. Is there an application that would be on that site if there is a business that would like to seek out these dollars?

REX HEXAMER – Yes. What they can do on the Stark Jobs database, that's for them listing any of their jobs. So, if you talk to any of your businesses, if they go on that site and their jobs aren't listed, please call us or call Dave. Because we want to get as many of those jobs on our site. For the grant money, if you're talking to any businesses and they're expanding or talking about expanding, primarily in manufacturing, please let us know. Because if they're adding between 25 to 30 jobs over the next three years, there may be a possibility for grants. You all approved Polymer Packaging. Polymer Packaging, we had a great meeting with them and they were looking at either Michigan or expanding on their site. So, we were not only able to

get some help from the folks here at the City of Massillon, but Jobs Ohio gave them a grant also which ended up keeping those jobs and that expansion in Stark County.

COUNCILWOMAN LITMAN – Should they contact you, should they contact Dave?

REX HEXAMER – Contact Dave or me, either one. We work together, so, we talk quite a bit. So, if you get something like that, let either one of us know.

COUNCILWOMAN LITMAN – Is there a dollar figure that they're looking for? Like expansion of "X" dollars?

REX HEXAMER – Not necessarily expansion. It's more of how to make job creation.

COUNCILWOMAN LITMAN – Okay.

REX HEXAMER – So anything 25 jobs and above does help if they're doing some type of capital expansion, but not necessary.

COUNCILWOMAN LITMAN – Okay.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Anyone else? Did you say the website was starkjobs.com?

REX HEXAMER – starkjobsdatabase.com.

COUNCILWOMAN LITMAN – Thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you very much.

REX HEXAMER – Alright. Thank you.

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

L.J. DELUCA – Madam President?

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Yes.

L.J. DELUCA – Is Mr. Hexamer, would that be part of the agenda that he spoke just now?

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Did he leave?

L.J. DELUCA – Yes, he just left. Okay.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – I would take that as "yes". That would be on the agenda. You may come forward and speak on that if you wish.

L.J. DELUCA – Am I allowed to speak on #17? Because that's what I had intentions to do, but I didn't know that Mr. Hexamer was going to be here.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Oh. Pick one. You have three minutes. If you get them both in in three minutes.

L.J. DELUCA – Thank you. I know Mr. Hexamer, I don't know him personally. Okay, Madam President, thanks for letting me speak tonight and President Pro Tem, Mr. Manson and all City Council members and all my friends in Massillon. The Mayor, Dave, Safety Service Director and Ms. Scassa.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Name and address.

L.J. DELUCA – 2954 Veterans Blvd. S.E., Massillon, Ohio. So I guess Mr. Hexamer left. I remember him when he was with the Beaver Kettle Co., which was WHBC, First Communications. I understand, I don't know if he's part of the Stark Metro Akron, Metroplex or whatever. But, we've had a lot of businesses that have left Massillon. Fisher Foods, Subway, K-Mart, Elum Music, Service Steel Aerospace. Why couldn't we have gotten them a bigger place here? They said "no". Hibbetts Sports, Building 9 is leaving now in September. I got more, I'm not going to give the whole list, but, I'm concerned. This election is going to come down to economic development and Affinity Medical Center. And I'm concerned. Mr. Hexamer said he's working with Dave and the Mayor and I'm sure he is. But he also worked with Navarre and Mayor Benson in Navarre to get them; they had a lot of land. But Mayor Benson in Navarre; he's very smart. He had all the land saved up so they wouldn't become land logged. I talked to him on the phone and I talked to some other people. The land was not land logged, so they got Hendrickson. I'm sad about Hendrickson. Our companies are leaving one after one, after one, after one and we're not replenishing. When I fill up a Speedway, I have gas in my car but, my car when I get to like 40 miles a gallon, it goes, my lights go to bars and I'm afraid right now where at the City of Massillon, we're at bars. We need economic development. I'd like to know from Mr. Hexamer, I plan on calling him tomorrow because he left, what companies they work with? Polymer Packaging, as a matter-of-fact, I thought they were considering some other things too. But, I'll look into that for all of the citizens of Massillon, Ohio. But, I wanted to address Mr. Hexamer, but unfortunately, he left. I think he's a great guy and I just want economic development to be first and foremost in the City of Massillon for everybody. Thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you. Anyone else? Oh, I'm sorry.

BRUCE VRSAN – Is this the segment where you can challenge somebody's ruling on a public hearing on the agenda?

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – This is the segment where you can speak on any item that is on tonight's agenda.

BRUCE VRSAN – Okay. I don't see it listed on tonight's agenda. It's about a change in a variance.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Manson.

COUNCILMAN MANSON – It's Res. No. 5 that we just added to the agenda.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – So it is on the agenda?

BRUCE VRSAN – Okay, so, that's right now?

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Yes.

BRUCE VRSAN – Okay. So, let me speak to that, please.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – State your name and address.

BRUCE VRSAN – Hi, how are you? I don't know if you remember me. I was here last week. 1211 Springhill Ave. N.E., Massillon and I am here about an applicant that appealed the 35' setback rule on the back of their property. And that happens to be a neighbor of mine and they would like a variance of 18' and my objection was that it establishes a bad precedent because there's less and less green space and when they build up in their lot there's nothing left and now I just got in the mail that for tomorrow, they're having another petition where they would like to have a setback on the side lot changed from 12', which is required, to 5' 6". Well, I'm taller than that. That means I can fall over my property line and hit my head in their house. All the green space is being used. I said it sets a bad precedent and you give them an inch, they take a mile. I had challenged it simply because this will continue. More people will want to do it and before you know it, you're living in public housing. I grew up in a neighborhood where the houses were just about 5' apart from one another and I thought when I moved in Springhill Ave. it's going to be different. But now it's resorting back to the way it was. Mayor, do you have any homes in your neighborhood where the houses are 5' 6" away from the property line or the setback is reduced to 18' instead of 35'?

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Bruce, this is not a question/answer.

BRUCE VRSAN – Okay. Well, you know, a little bit of commentary from the "peanut gallery". Well, I'm just going to do one thing. I'm opposed to it because it sets a bad precedent, in my opinion. That's just my opinion and I'm inviting all of you people to come tomorrow to the hearing of the variance and it'll be here in this Chambers here and you can see a democracy in action and see how that turns out. That's all I have to say right now.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you for your comments. Is there anyone else that would like to speak on a topic that's on tonight's agenda? Please come forward.

JAMES HAAVISTO – 2443 Wittenberg Drive S.E. and I just want to address some upcoming legislation. It looks like it's in the introduction mode. First of all, as far as the returning the 10% penalty to those working outside the City should have been done a long time ago. Probably should have never happened, but everybody has their reasons for doing what they do and voting for what they vote for. The other item is also now Council looking at the idea of tying their wages or monthly fees. I understand it's not a lot of money, but I don't know that this is a full-time job for anyone, I may be wrong. I think this is a part-time job. I think it's a service to the citizens. I think it's a bad time. I think Council is quickly rushing in an election year to do a lot of different things and they're going to have, they're small, but they're to have major effects on the budget of this City and I think we need to think about that. We've got some unsolved issues. We talked about last time, the hospital and so on. We don't know as a City where we're going to be going into next year and I don't think it's time right now as a Council to be taking on all these issues at one time trying to rush them through. I think it's a disservice to the citizens and I don't think there's an overall plan. I think there's a topic of cutting back on the taxes. That's $300 something thousand dollars. What about the street tax

and the sewer tax that's been placed on the people and fee/tax fine, you can argue that point. But there's still items that the citizens are paying for and now we're talking about a wage increase. I don't have anything against anybody in here which I've made it very clear. But, financially, I think we're flying by the seat of our pants one more time. I do not think we have an overall plan in place. Everybody talks about "What's your plan? What's your plan? What's your plan?". My question is for this Council, "What is your plan?". The overall plan and how does it work together? We can piece meal it or we're going to end up in financial problems because we have not solved our hospital issue. We have not replaced our reservoir. We have not done a lot of things and I think we're playing with fire with our budget for the future. Thank you everyone.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you. Anyone else?

6. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCE NO. 114 – 2019 **BY: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

AN ORDINANCE repealing Ordinance No. 68 – 2012, effective January 1, 2020, and reinstating the increase in pay based on the previous year's United States Consumer Price Index for the Council President and Council Members, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISNTICK – Councilman Manson.

COUNCILMAN MANSON – First reading.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you. Ord. No. 114 – 2019 has received first reading. Ord. No. 115 – 2019.

ORDINANCE NO. 115 – 2019 **BY: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

AN ORDINANCE repealing Ordinance No. 69 – 2012, effective January 1, 2020, and reinstating the increase in pay based on the previous year's United States Consumer Price Index for the Mayor, Auditor, Law Director and Treasurer, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Manson.

COUNCILMAN MANSON – Yes, thank you, Madam President. I would ask that you invite the Law Director up to the podium and we have an amendment to this Ord. No. 115. I'm going to let her explain it and then I'll take my action.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Ms. Scassa, thank you.

ANDREA SCASSA – Thank you, Council. I put on your desk copies of the amended ordinance that I proposed. If you look under Section 2, what I am seeking to amend if you so move and pass, is to just add clarification that "Effective January 1, 2022 and thereafter, the Treasurer shall receive an increase in pay based on the previous year's United States Consumer Price Index". As you are all aware as most of our offices are up for election this year, the Treasurer is not. That position is currently mid-term and that next term does not start until January 1, 2022. So, due to the Revised Code that does not allow to vote on increase or decrease during salaried or during, excuse me, terms of office. I spoke to our Auditor's office,

Debbie Bonk, and we thought that so there's no question for clarification's sake to take the Treasurer out of the other sentence that has the effective date of January 1, 2020 and just specify that for the Treasurer's position, the cost of living increases would not start until the next term. So that's the only change. It, essentially, has the same intent of what you previous have before you, but it's just laying a little bit more clearer.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Manson.

COUNCILMAN MANSON – Yes. Your changes are in Section 2, right? And you're taking the Treasurer out of what it said on the other one, effective January 1st for all of them and you're adding effective January 1, 2022 for the Treasurer?

ANDREA SCASSA – Correct. And in essence, the Title is also amended because in the Title it did have effective January 1. So, I did remove that from the Title as well since we have two effective dates.

COUNCILMAN MANSON – Okay.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Just to be clear. All we're doing then is amending the language tonight in order to properly reflect that the original intent of the author was that it has no bearing on anything else rather than to reflect that language, correct?

ANDREA SCASSA – Correct. And previously when Ord. No. 68 and 69 were passed, because again, the Treasurer was mid-term, that didn't take effect for that position until her next term. So, again, it's just because, for whatever reason, that four-year term is offset from almost every other elected.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Anyone else? Councilman Manson.

COUNCILMAN MANSON – Yes, thank you, Madam President. I make a motion that we amend Ord. No. 115 – 2019 to reflect the changes that the Law Director is recommending.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Seconded by Councilwoman Starrett. Roll call for the amendment.

9 yes to amend Ord. No. 115 - 2019

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 115 – 2019 has been amended.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Manson.

COUNCILMAN MANSON – First reading.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you. Ord. No. 115 – 2019 has received first reading. Ord. No. 116 – 2019.

ORDINANCE NO. 116 – 2019 **BY: FINANCE COMMITTEE**

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the Mayor of the City of Massillon, Ohio, to submit applications for funding to the Ohio Public Works Commission for the funding year 2020, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Yes. I'd like to call forward someone from the Administration whether that be the Mayor or the Safety Service Director.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you, Ms. Sylvester.

BARB SYLVESTER – Good evening.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – So, this is just applications for funding from OPWC which is a pretty typical thing that we do. We included on this particular application Wales Rd. and Warmington Rd. Is that correct?

BARB SYLVESTER – That's correct.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – And then Phase III of the Imagine Project?

BARB SYLVESTER – That's correct.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – I believe last week I'd asked if we knew in detail what Phase III would entail and I don't know if you have an answer that?

BARB SYLVESTER – Yes, I do. I went back and actually got the figures as well as what the applications will be for. As you know, the Wales Rd. Project has been approved as a 9.9 million-dollar project that ODOT did the safety study and they have awarded the funds for that and then the OPWC for the remainder portion of that.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – And I just wanted to explain because usually with ODOT, there's some kind of match and we use OPWC to cover the match that ODOT would apply.

BARB SYLVESTER – Correct, 90/10.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Thank you.

BARB SYLVESTER – So, that's what that portion is. So, each of these here are actually asks for an application as priority. So, that is our number one priority. The grant as you said, you're familiar with and it's competitive throughout the County. The Lincoln Way Streetscape, basically, it is the portion and I did put that on your update sheet there at the bottom; it is the portion of the Lincoln Way Streetscape Phase that is in construction right now. So, it's to continue that full road with sidewalks being replaced, the underground utilities as well as the light poles, the repaving what they call micro-resurfacing. So that basically, you won't have uneven pavement and everything will be smooth out on that. So, the dollar amount asking for this is $700,000.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Because I need a little more clarification. So, according to this, we have 1st St. N.E. to 4th St. N.E.; 1st St. N.W. to 1st St. S.W.?

BARB SYLVESTER – So, the portions of downtown Lincoln Way that are not under construction at this time from those streets, those next few blocks going both ways.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Currently, we have Erie to 1st. So, wouldn't 1st St. to 1st St. cover that?

BARBH SYLVESTER – When you say 1st St.; we're going all the way up to 4th St. like you're headed to the east.

COUNCILWOMAN LITMAN – On each side?

BARB SYLVESTER – Yes. And then go the other direction.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – The other direction 1st St. to 1st St.?

BARB SYLVESTER – Yes.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Okay. And that is to do sidewalks?

BARB SYLVESTER – Sidewalk replacement, underground utilities, the light poles and then, like I said, to actually repaint that pavement as well.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – What kind of shut-down are we looking at to do that and when are we looking to do this?

BARB SYLVESTER – I don't know that that would be determined. I guess we'll probably see if we get all of the funding. It'll probably determined after that fact. These are just the applications to go in for funding. These are not the actual construction.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – And when's the due date for the OPWC application?

BARB SYLVESTER – It is September 13, 2019, and generally speaking they say that each year, because they are competitive, most all communities don't apply until right near the end and the reason being is because if, in fact, let's say for instance, our Richville Dr. project, one of our other projects, we ran into some issues and needed some additional funding. That may be our priority. So, typically, the engineer said you wait until closest to the application date to put it in. Just to make sure that all of your other construction projects have been funded and you have that money for any additional emergencies.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Okay. I'm asking these questions because you know, our downtown businesses are trying to…

MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY – If I could just add something?

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Yes, sure.

MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY – I know where you're going with your thoughts.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Yes, I'm just trying to make sure that we do our best.

MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY – Yes. There are not any brick improvements going up to 4th St. that we're doing right now and that's really the time-consuming piece. So, it will be much less than it is with this project, if that helps you.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Yes. First and forth, it's just going to be a light repaving. So, that should be a fairly quick process and there's a little less of an impact on businesses because, obviously, we're outside of the heart of it. So, I get that piece. The sidewalk piece, is it going to be similar to what we're doing downtown?

MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY – The sidewalks will be removed and replaced. But the piece that, I just want to stress is the brick work where the "M's" are going in, that's the detailed piece. That is not going to continue up the street, so, the timing will be much less. So, if we didn't do the "M's" right now we would be putting in the sidewalks. So, the biggest piece is taking out the former electrical poles and then putting in the conduit for the new poles. Ordering the new poles, which we'll do ahead of time, they take 8 to 12 weeks to come in and then placing those. So, the timeline will be much shorter because we're not doing the brick work that we're doing on the heart of the City.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – But we don't know what that timeline would be exactly?

MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY – I would say it would be half of what it is with this project. And the water lines are already replaced so we don't have to do that. The water lines have been in for a while and the gas lines.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – So I guess the part that I'm still is, that's 1st to 4th heading east and then we're also going west a little bit as well?

MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY – The west project is really that we could not afford the new arm mast with this project. So, that'll be added to the next piece of the project. So, that would be the light that comes over down on 1st St., that's the piece that we need to add in and then if there's any other additional cement that needs to go in. But the majority of that project is done. We just have a few little pieces to finish up, but those arm masts are expensive but we need to upgrade it to the new and improved arm mast.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilwoman Litman.

COUNCILWOMAN LITMAN – I would just like to confirm that we wouldn't be doing both sides of that at the same time necessarily. We may choose one and then the other so that there would still be flow of traffic through?

MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY – We could probably still have one lane going through that and as we could have with this project. If you all recall, we could have had one lane for a year and a half, if you all remember that. We talked about this and the engineers recommended to us and to all of you that we do the shut-down for three months and get it over with. It's kind of like do you pull the band aid off slow or do you rip it off? We wanted to do it as quickly as we could and we didn't want to stress the businesses for a year and a half. So, you probably could have the one lane going down the middle as we did and they could probably be working on both

sides because we are going to be doing the micro resurfacing at the end, but we're not doing any of the "M" work. So, I think we'll see a much better timeline, a much shorter timeline than we do now. But, we wanted this project to really have a presence when you enter Massillon; that you know you're in Massillon. So, it'll be a mark for our City.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilwoman Creamer.

COUNCILWOMAN CREAMER – Just for clarification. So, this application is, part of it is for Phase III?

MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY – Right.

COUNCILWOMAN CREAMER – And the Safety Service Director said it a $700,000 project. That's the total amount or is that the funding we're requesting? I'm just trying to get a handle on what the project is going cost if we're going to do underground utilities and you said the water and it had catch basins. So I know when we start digging we found ourselves in situations that we didn't plan for.

MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY – Well, we're applying for $700,000. They believe that that is going to be the amount that they could possibly get and there's usually a match. Either a 10% or 20% which we'll be putting in from our City.

COUNCILWOMAN CREAMER – Okay. So there will be funding coming from the City?

MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY – Every project that we do always has some type of a match. It's very rare that we get a project 100% funded.

COUNCILWOMAN CREAMER – Okay. And $700,000 is the total amount for the project or that's for the funding? I'm just trying to understand.

MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY – It's $875,000 and we're requesting $700,000.

COUNCILWOMAN CREAMER – The project's $875,000. Okay, thank you.

MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY – Approximately. That's what they're guessing. They do a pretty good job of guessing, but you still have to go out to bid. You still have to have contractors bid. It come under that. So, we just don't know until we go to bid for it. But this time what we're asking you to do is just to put the application in and as the Safety Service Director said, it is a competitive process. We're not even guaranteed to get any of them. We just have to apply and we hope that we score high enough. A lot of times we scored high enough for Richville Dr. because we're collaborating. There's different points awarded for different processes in the application.

COUNCILWOMAN CREAMER – So I know for the project that currently going on when we went out to bid the dollar amounts were much higher than what we expected. So, with that $875,000, are we putting some type of cushion in there just because of the situation we found ourselves in with this project?

MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY – Sure. The first time we went out to bid, the water company was in our project and that's why it came in so high because the water company's piece was in

our project. So, then we took it out and went and redid it and the project came in where we could afford to execute the project for the Imagine Phase I. We really wanted to go up higher on our streets and that's why you see this is Phase III and if it comes in way too high, it may be Phase III and then the next time Phase IV to complete it. So, but we do want to get up to historic 4th St. and to tie that in and then, eventually, I do want to get to, you know, people have asked me to put in more brick roads. Well, we can't put any more brick roads in until we take care of historic 4th St.'s brick. So, I have vowed that that is one of the projects I'd like us to look at in the future before we brick any other roads. But that really needs our attention in the near future. It has a historic area that we really need. It's a gem for us and we really need to take care of that.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilwoman Litman.

COUNCILWOMAN LITMAN – Are each of these projects applied for independently of the others or is it a group application?

MAYOR CATAZARO PERRY – They're all independent and they'll rate them and then we'll find out late fall which ones have been approved.

COUNCILWOMAN LITMAN – Thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Manson.

COUNCILMAN MANSON – Yes, I'd like to clear this up a little more on this Streetscape III. Okay, I think I understand from 1st St. N.E. to 4th St. N.E. What are we doing from Erie to 1st St. S.W.? That is going to be part of what we're doing right now?

MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY – Let me see if I have the picture with me. We are, the arm mast is missing. It's over $100,000 for the updated arm mast and so, that's really the big piece of that southwest area that's missing, Paul.

COUNCILMAN MANSON – What I'm looking at here is we have the sidewalks and everything torn out from Erie to 1st St.

MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY – Yes.

COUNCILMAN MANSON – That's going to be resurfaced when we resurface all of one?

MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY – Right, and plus the arm mast. The sidewalks will be completed.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – And that's Phase I.

MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY – No. The sidewalks are Phase I, the street resurfacing and the arm mast will be Phase III.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – And what's Phase II?

MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY – Phase II is the amphitheater, Duncan Plaza. So, we hope to only have Phase III, but again, we don't know until we bid it out and see how it comes in and what actually we can do.

COUNCILMAN MANSON – Alright, one more time so it sinks in here.

MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY – Sure.

COUNCILMAN MANSON – From Erie to 1st St. and that's the street that Kozmo's is on, we're going to do sidewalks right now?

MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY – Yes.

COUNCILMAN MANSON – But we're not going to resurface that, is that right?

MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY – No.

COUNCILMAN MANSON – Not now? Okay.

MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY – Also, then…

COUNCILMAN MANSON – Because I thought I understood that a couple of those lanes were going to be paved and taken care of by the utilities, I thought.

MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY – Well, they are, but that's part of the entire project and that's from 1st St. to 1st St. So, the other piece is that there's a few sidewalks left that will need to be done in front of Apathakeri and Tiger Rags. That will need to be completed as well with Phase III and the arm mast. So, we just kind of squeeze it all in this project financially. The arm mast was really the piece that really was too expensive.

COUNCILMAN MANSON – I was just wondering on the paving. The paving shouldn't be must of an effect on the arm mast. Like I said, I thought when the utilities started tearing that up, I thought they were going to be doing part of the resurfacing there. I thought we were going to resurface that when we did Phase I; when we finished Phase I, but, now you're saying that we're not going to?

MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY – It didn't make it to the final plan, financially.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Anyone else for the Mayor or Ms. Sylvester?

BARB SYLVESTER – I can just tell you on the portion on the Warmington Rd. improvement, as well, that project that's going to be presented the application is going to be similar to Richville Dr. that was just finished. That is to widen it, put in the gutters and take the bridge that's on there and turn it into a culvert and so, that application is going to be a million, five thousand and the total project would be three million, one hundred and twenty-five thousand. Again, estimated. But that's the other application that will be submitted.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Any other questions? Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – I make a motion that we suspend the rules requiring three readings and bring Ord. No. 116 – 2019 forward for a vote.

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

9 yes for suspension

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – And for passage.

9 yes for passage

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 116 – 2019 has passed. Res. No. 4 – 2019.

RESOLUTION NO. 4 – 2019 **BY: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

A RESOLUTION supporting the 80th Anniversary of Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority for the services they provide to the citizens of Stark County which includes the citizens of Massillon, Ohio.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Manson.

COUNCILMAN MANSON – Yes. We had a letter from Stark Metropolitan Housing requesting their support. So, unless anybody has a reason why we shouldn't, I'm going move to waive the rules and bring this forward tonight.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Any questions for Mr. Manson?

COUNCILMAN MANSON – I make a motion that we waive the rule requiring three separate readings and bring Res. No. 4 – 2019 forward for passage.

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

9 yes for suspension

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – And for passage.

9 yes for passage

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

RESOLUTION NO. 5 – 2019 **BY: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

A RESOLUTION denying the appeal made to Massillon City Council on August 1, 2019, wherein the Zoning Board of Appeals approved a variance from the Massillon Zoning Code for a proposed addition at 1225 Springhill Avenue N.E., on Parcel No. 603368 and Parcel No. 613642 in the City of Massillon, Ohio, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Manson.

COUNCILMAN MANSON – Thank you, Madam President. We had considerable discussion about this over the last couple of weeks. The Zoning Board of Appeals approved this unanimously. The Springhill residents did not contest any of it, did not object to this. This comes right up against their border. So, unless there's a reason somebody comes up with, I intend to try to move this forward tonight. Seeing none, I make a motion that we waive the rule requiring three separate readings and bring Res. No. 5 – 2019 forward for passage.

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

9 yes for suspension

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – And for passage.

8 yes; 1 no for passage; Litman voted "no"

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Res. No. 5 – 2019 has passed.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8. PETITIONS AND GENERAL COMMINCATIONS

9. BILLS, ACCOUNTS AND CLAIMS

10. REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

11. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Our next Work Session will be next Monday, September 9, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

12. RESOLUTIONS AND REQUESTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

13. CALL OF THE CALENDAR

14. THIRD READING ORDINANCE AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCE NO. 108 – 2019 BY: FINANCE COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE amending Section 181.081 "CREDIT FOR TAX PAID TO ANOTHER MUNICIPALITY" of CHAPTER 181 "INCOME TAX" of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Massillon, Ohio, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Yes. On this particular issue, there will be an amendment tonight. We should have all received a printout prior to the Council meeting to review. At this time, Madam President, I would like to call forward Law Director Scassa.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you, Ms. Scassa.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Ms. Scassa, the first piece is that we are adding, "the effective date of January 1, 2020, effective for the tax year 2020", is that correct?

ANDREA SCASSA – That is correct.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – And then would you like to go into more detail about the paragraph that you are using to amend and where that amendment will take place in the ordinance?

ANDREA SCASSA – Yes. Under Section 2 "in Exhibit "A" is referenced because that represents what the codified ordinance is. So, if you go under the City of Massillon Codified ordinance 181.081, "Credit for tax paid to another Municipality" what you currently will see is two paragraphs, an "A" and a "B". So, it was requested of the Law Department by the Income Tax Administrator to take a look at those two paragraphs and see if there is any way to either condense them or attempt to make them more clearer for the average citizen. As you can imagine, our tax chapter very involved as any tax chapter is. So, this ordinance, this particular ordinance, the intent of what City Council wants or what you wanted, Councilman Lewis, in restoring the tax credit to 100%. We feel we achieved that in this one simplified paragraph. So, I did give you a copy of that with the amended Ord. No. 108 – 2019 that had the effective date for you tonight.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – So in essence, what this amendment does is make it clear and whatnot that what we are doing tonight is restoring the tax credit to 100% for when someone lives in the City of Massillon but works outside the City of Massillon and they pay a tax to another municipality, so, another city of JEDD, in this case, if our tax rate is at 2.0 and the tax rate that they pay into is 2.0 or greater, they receive an 100% credit only up to the 2.0 and then if they are in a municipality or JEDD in which the rate is less than Massillon's then they will still have to pay the difference to Massillon. Is that an accurate statement?

ANDREA SCASSA – Yes. For instance, if they work in a municipality where the tax rate is only 1.5%, they only get credit for the 1.5. So, they may still have liability to the City of Massillon for that remaining percentage.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – So you can't get credit for something that you didn't pay, essentially.

ANDREA SCASSA – Correct. And the other thing too is, you have to remember that this is just a credit. This is a credit that you apply on your tax form to your earnings. This isn't a refund, necessarily. So, even though there are other municipalities around that have had higher than a 2.0% income tax rate, the one that we keep hearing about is the City of Canton because they most recently raised theirs to 2.5% and I think a lot of our citizens maybe work in Canton. So, looking at that, the citizens need to understand that they will not be getting a 2.5% credit on their Massillon City income taxes. The limit is 2% because that is what our current tax rate is and again, if you look at that paragraph, it expletively states 2% for our tax rate, it just has language that states the tax rate imposed by this tractor.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – And I guess further to that point, if you work in a township where there is no municipal tax, then…

ANDREA SCASSA – You do not get any credit.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilwoman Starrett.

COUNCILWOMAN STARRETT – Just for clarity purposes, this is just clarifying what we're attempting to do, but in reality, if we pass this tonight we are returning back to pre-2014 or whenever we passed the reduced credit, correct? This is just returning it back to what it was before that time period.

ANDREA SCASSA – Correct. And, again, in having discussions with our income tax Administrator, her desire was to try to bring as much clarity as possible to our tax ordinances and, again, you're exactly right, Councilwoman Starrett. I mean, the issue of lower tax rate, higher tax rate, that has always been there and, again, it seems like common sense that you shouldn't get more or less than a credit than what you're entitled to. So, again, if you would so move to make the amendments to No. 108 to include the effective date and then to reflect that Exhibit "A" is also being amended to reflect that new language.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – I'd like to make a motion that we amend Ord. No. 108 – 2019 to reflect in Section 2 where reference to Exhibit "A" is made, that it reflects the language provided to us by the Law Director tonight entitled Exhibit "A" and then also that in Section 3 we do add that the ordinance shall take effect January 1, 2020, effective for the tax year 2020.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Seconded by Councilman Manson. Roll call.

9 yes to amend Ord. No. 108 – 2019

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Which I believe brings it back to first reading. Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Yes. My intention is to continue to move forward this evening. I will just say that we've been working under this for a few years now and I've never appreciated this form of taxation in the City and I've been committed to wanting to return it back on. So, I'm happy that we've gotten this far tonight. I do feel that it is an unjust form of taxation. Not only that, it was imposed upon the citizens. It wasn't something that they had a say in. So, regardless of the vote tonight, I do hope that we get full support. But, I am happy to know that the City is fiscally sound and we are in a position where we can have these kind of conversations and return something back to the citizens after they've spent these many years supporting us and helping us get to this place. If there are any questions, I'll hold off on my next motion.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Manson.

COUNCILMAN MANSON – Yes. I'd like to suggest that we take this back to first reading and take it back to Committee and start talking about it more. I, personally, will not support this. At least not right now. We had three different votes on raising our City Income tax two-tenths percent for our streets. Two of them, we agreed that we were going to take the first 1.8 back to 100% and we were going to make everybody pay that two-tenths. Well, then somehow, we switched this to 90%. It still ended up being two-tenths, but you're looking at 90% on the

whole 2%. I believe the situation we're in right now that when we came out of fiscal emergency, part of our plan, this was tied to our plan for five years, okay. I don't feel confident that we are that sound going beyond that five years right now. First of all, I don't think we're making head way on the streets and stuff like that that we should be; catch basins and stuff like that. I've heard us talk about funding, where are we going to get funding to do different things? We keep spending funding on streetscape and stuff like that and we talked about wanting to do Walnut Rd. I just think this is the wrong time to be doing this and I would like to have some more discussion about it. We've had very little and I haven't said much up until now. I've just been listening to this. I kind of felt like maybe it wasn't going to be moved for a while and I'd just like to take it back and get into committee and discuss it some more.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilwoman Starrett.

COUNCILWOMAN STARRETT – I feel like we've discussed this quite a bit and I'm in agreement with Mr. Lewis. I think that multiple people on this Council has always said we wanted to get rid of this as soon as we possibly fiscally could and I think at this point we can. I mean, if we're looking at giving ourselves raises and giving the Administration and other elected officials raises, I think we also need to make sure that we're giving back to the citizens and I think this is a good way to give back to the citizens at this point.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilwoman Cunningham.

COUNCILWOMAN CUNNINGHAM – Thank you, Madam President. We have discussed this for an awful long time and why I'm in favor of this is to help the young families that want to come into to Massillon and because of this taxation, they don't feel comfortable to do it and so that's why I am in favor of passing this on tonight.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Gregg.

COUNCILMAN GREGG – I would echo Councilwoman Starrett and Councilwoman Cunningham's remarks and so I'm leaning towards supporting this as well. I do have a quick language in Section 3. It states that the ordinance will take effect January 1, 2020. Effective for tax year 2020. What happens after tax year 2020? Are we voting on this again or how does that work?

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – From my understanding, the Law Director can speak to it if she needs; it's just making sure that one understands that next year, especially when some people will be paying quarterly taxes next year, estimates and things of that nature, it'll be impacting next year and they just wanted to make sure that that was clear. So, no, this will stay until an action of the legislative branch were to change it.

COUNCILMAN GREGG – Alright, thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Manson.

COUNCILMAN MANSON – Yes. Something else that goes along with this. I think there's be a little bit of a false narrative and I hear these people, individuals here saying that they've been hearing from people that they want to roll that back. I, personally, have not heard it from one single person other than our couple of people on Council. I have a number of family members that are impacted by this. Very seriously, they pay a lot of taxes in the cities that they work in

and they haven't said one word about it. I think this is more of people maybe that are in the situation that are bringing this forward. Like I said, when we talked about this, when we tried to get this passed through the City income tax at two-tenths the first two times, we said that we were going back to 100% on the first 1.8 and everybody was going to pay the rest and they approved it. So, I still think we should take it back and talk a lot more about it, but if you don't, I won't be voting for it.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Anyone else?

COUNCIL CLERK ROLLAND – Madam President, I just noticed something myself. In the both ordinances, we're asking to declare an emergency. The first one does not have the emergency language and the amended one does not have the emergency language.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – I don't believe emergency would be needed because the only reason we would use emergency is if we need it to go into effect in less than thirty days and we have four months for it to fully go through the process.

COUNCIL CLERK ROLLAND – Okay.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – So, I mean, Madam Law Director, can you speak to that? Would that be accurate that since it doesn't go into effect until January 1st, emergency language would not be necessary?
ANDREA SCASSA – Correct. Well, I guess I'm looking back at the legislation request. I do not believe emergency language was requested. So that may have been a typo on our part of drafting the ordinance. Looking back at the legislation request from July 26th, neither was checked at least on the legislation request that I have.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – So unless anyone on Council disagrees with me, I don't see why it would be necessary to add emergency language to this. We have plenty of time. Thank you. And also to make it clear, when we suspend the rules, the suspending rules and emergency language are two separate issues. We can suspend rules and not have it be an emergency. Just to make that clear as well.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – With that, I make a motion that we suspend the rules requiring three readings, bringing Ord. No. 108 – 2019 forward for a vote.

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

8 yes for suspension; 1 no – Manson voted "no"

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – And for passage.

8 yes for passage; 1 no – Manson voted "no"

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 108 – 2019 has passed.

15. SECOND READING ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCE NO. 109 – 2019 **BY: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the Mayor of the City of Massillon, Ohio, to enter into an agreement with Hideaway Lounge to provide an economic development "inducement grant" for property improvements at 34 Diamond Court S.E., Massillon, Ohio, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Manson.

COUNCILMAN MANSON – Thank you, Madam President. I've asked for and haven't heard any objections to this; if anybody had anything they wanted to bring up about it and I indicated at the last meeting that I was going to move this.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – I just want to refresh for the amount of the grant that's being requested.

COUNCILMAN MANSON - $5,000.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Anyone else? Councilman Manson.

COUNCILMAN MANSON – I make a motion that we waive the rule requiring three separate readings and bring Ord. No. 109 – 2019 forward for passage.

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

9 yes for suspension

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – And for passage.

9 yes for passage

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 109 – 2019 has passed. Ord. No. 111 – 2019.

ORDINANCE NO. 111 – 2019 **BY: FINANCE COMMITTEE**

AN ORDINANCE making certain appropriations from the unappropriated balance of the 1237 Economic Development Fund for the Hideaway Lounge, for the year ending December 31, 2019, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Yes. This ordinance just mirrors Ord. No. 109. It's the appropriation of what we just passed. I'd like to make a motion that we suspend the rules requiring three readings, bringing Ord. No. 111 – 2019 forward for a vote.

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

9 yes for suspension

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – And for passage.

9 yes for passage

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 111 – 2019 has passed.

16. NEW AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – At this time I would like to call the Mayor up to see if she can give us an update on Affinity/VA.

MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY – Okay. Council President, members of Council. I did get to speak with the director at the Cleveland based Wade Park and he did say that they did have all the waivers signed. There were six waivers that needed to have the signatures and that has been accomplished. There are several steps left in the process. One is that they have to present their business case and they already have that complete, so, they're presenting that to them and now is the time to bring financials into the picture. So, they're working on the financials of what it's going to cost them to get it up and running and exactly how much property they would lease and hopefully, in October they'll be working on the lease procurement. So, we're getting closer. I'd love to promise you that it's going to happen, but I cannot do that, but we're doing the steps that they've asked us to go through. Really, it's all in their hands, all the work that they need to accomplish and we've done everything that we can do at this point. So, but they're very interested in the facility. I did tell them that December was our deadline to make a decision and after that we would stop putting money into the facility. So, they do know that it's a strict deadline.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Anyone on Council have any questions for the Mayor?

MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY – May I go over a few other things?

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Absolutely.

MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY – CommQuest recently had a 100th anniversary. They're also having a recovery picnic soon on the CommQuest Massillon campus. So, I'd like to pass these out. They do quite a bit of services in our community and it lists the services that they have here. So, I'll pass these around to each of you. And then, we also sent out, let me just back up to the VA. We also sent out to each of you the letter that was sent to Congressman Anthony Gonzales talking about our project. So, if I may just jump, I know a lot of you may be getting questions asked about road pavement and I'd like to go over that. We're putting in 90 curb ramps. So, you might be saying "Why aren't they paving?". Well, we have to put these

curb ramps in to be ADA compliant. 168 catch basins, the catch basins and curb ramps have been completed on the southeast, southwest and northwest sides so far. The roads that have been completed as far as pavement was 19th St., Russell Blvd., 29th St. N.W. and half of 27th St. N.W. They're going back to finish the other part of 27th St. N.W. They are in the process now of milling 24th St. N.W., Howard N.W., Stanton N.W., Cherry N.W., 3rd St. and 9th St., Green Ave and 7th St. S.W. They are in the process of paving then Howard, Stanton, Cherry, 3rd and 9th. So, they're going to finish up on the west side and then they will be moving to the east side and the northwest side should take about two more weeks. So, just to give your constituents and your wards an idea of what we're doing. But the reason it's taking a long time is the catch basins and curb ramps. We did hire a new police officer and swore her in today. So, it's a female, Alexis. She's from Springfield and she's starting working today as well. So, we're exciting about having her join our family. The VA, I gave you that update and then the Neighborhood Fair; you've all received information on that. It's this Saturday, September 7th from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Oak Knoll Park and it's a neighborhood resource fair, so, we're trying to connect our residents with resources. Habitat for Humanity will also be there. Our Housing Dept. will be there and I'm going through and talking to different organizations and a lot of people don't know that we have dollars for first-time homebuyers. So, we want our residents to know that that money is there and available if they qualify as well as rehab opportunities. They can do partial or full rehab. So, the Housing Dept. will be there as well to help explain that to our community. And then we also have emergency repair for possibly a roof or hot water tank. So, I don't know, I know you all know that, but please share that with your residents because it is really important, especially in the winter time when someone needs a hot water tank or a roof. I think that is everything I had to update you on. Any questions for me?

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilwoman Creamer.

COUNCILWOMAN CREAMER – Thank you. I'm just looking at the list. A portion of Erie St. was on the 2018 list and it never got completed. I don't see it listed on this list.

MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY – There's a reason for that, Mrs. Creamer. It's great that the economy is booming at this time, but, our contractors are so busy that no one bid on it. So, we're going to have to move that to 2020. There's no time to go back out to bid on it to have it completed in a timely fashion and all of the contractors are so busy that they didn't want to commit because they have to complete the job and that was there choice.

COUNCILWOMAN CREAMER – So when we were brought the 2019 list and I stated that Erie never got completed, I was told that when we get to that side of town they will do that portion because I requested that portion to be at the top of the list since it was supposed to be completed in 2018. I just find it hard that this isn't going to be done for the second year and it's not acceptable. It's not right.

MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY – Well, it's out of our control. The contractors have the opportunity to bid on those projects and we were surprised that no one bid on it.

COUNCILWOMAN CREAMER – Because? Why would they choose not to bid on a portion of a street?

MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY – Because it's a time commitment and they want to make sure that they can complete the project and they have so many projects that they've committed to this year that they didn't want to take that chance.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – We still have 2020's list to approve, correct?

MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY – We have not even started 2020's list.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Okay. Well, in my opinion, and I'm sure Ms. Creamer would be in agreement, I'd like to see that section of Erie put out to bid for 2020 and be accepted for 2020. I mean, two years?

COUNCILWOMAN CREAMER – Along with Walnut.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – I was getting there, but, yes.

COUNCILWOMAN CREAMER – Thank you.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – But, I mean two years? I want to make sure that Erie St. gets approved before anything else. So, why don't we just put it back out to bid and try to get on someone's front end for 2020? If we're not going to get it in 2019; we already appropriated the dollars for it, right?

MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY – Typically they don't; you don't go out to bid at this time because the amounts change by the time the new year rolls around. So, we could go out to bid early on in 2020 for that project, but, that was not any of our doing. That is up to the contractors and they chose not to bid on it.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Well, then I guess put it out to bid as soon as you can get someone to respond and then, we'll accept that and then we can move on with the rest of the list in 2020. I want to make sure that's a priority.

COUNCILWOMAN CREAMER – Along with…?

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Walnut.

MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY – Thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you. And Ms. Sylvester is also going to come up and give us an update.

BARB SYLVESTER – Okay, the Mayor covered the first page that we had put together from the Engineer's office, so, you can see all of the items there. I did have them go ahead and list for you the account numbers so that you can tell each project here whether it comes from the General Fund or whichever account that it's coming out of as well as the accounts that we have set aside for the emergency repairs as well. And then the second page you have there is from our Street Dept. and those are the streets that our Street Dept. had done the overlay paving on those. So, you can see which ones are completed on there. And then the last is the

catch basin report that everyone wanted updated and again, it's pretty much self-explanatory. As I said before when I've given you copies of them, this is what we put together that are the worse of the worse of the catch basins, basically. These are rated the 4's and 5's, they are the worse. So, you can see, we're keeping on there, I asked them to continue to keep on there anything that's completed so that if you are looking for something in a certain section or area, you can still find it on there and it will show that it is completed.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Ms. Sylvester, how much does one catch basin cost to redo?

BARB SYLVESTER – Actually, a few of the contractors are a little different in price. As the Mayor said, it gets very competitive. We have a hard time getting them out here, but, approximately $3,000 is about what we've been paying.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – And are they doing them differently than they used to because the ones that get done seem to not stand up very well. Is there a new process that they are using?

BARB SYLVESTER – There is a new process and the outside contractors, basically, have a different process in what they use. So, they are lasting longer, the casting of them, the main frames of them.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you. Anyone else? Councilwoman Litman.

COUNCILWOMAN LITMAN – I was asked by a resident about a specific catch basin and I'm noticing that it is on the list, but, there are no comments and no contractor. What type of a timeframe can those locations expect for that repair? They're on the list, but there's not any notation next to it.

BARB SYLVESTER – Well, it all depends on the funding then. So, as I said, these are the worst of the worst. All of them that are listed here, so, the first set of catch basins that the funding is in place for, as you see on your list was 40 catch basins. So, those are the ones that rated the worse and then the next set of the money that was funded to them was to be able to do about 33 catch basins. So, again, that's how they make the list here. So, these are all that are rated the 4's and the 5's, they are the worst. So, if there's notation yet, there's no funding yet for those, basically is what that means.

COUNCILWOMAN LITMAN – Okay.

BARB SYLVESTER – There's 4,794 catch basins and to date, we have 3,401 of them inspected and rated.

COUNCILWOMAN LITMAN – 3 thousand what?

BARB SYLVESTER – 3,401 and then you can see this list is the worst of the worst which we are now up to 404. They're what we consider the worst, the most dangerous, the plated, the barrels.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Is there anything new on the reservoir?

BARB SYLVESTER – That would come from the Parks Dept.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Okay. Is there anything else you'd like to update us on?

BARB SYLVESTER – I think that's everything between that and what the Mayor told you that we're working on.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Okay. Thank you.

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

GARY MILLER – I live at 1225 Springhill Ave. I'm here tonight with my wife, Linda, who is in the audience and I just want to express my thanks to Council for their support of the variance on the south side of our proposed addition of our property. Now that we have cleared up the confusion, I think of the setbacks that we have on the west side, we are moving forward to also request that variance in hope that we can provide the information that's necessary and that will allow us to do that and go forward with the construction. We appreciate your consideration of it but also the concern you express the other night as talked about it. It's been a long an involved process for us and it certainly is one that we hope we can get completed as quickly as possible. So, on behalf of Linda and I, thank you very much.

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

BARBARA BENSON – My husband, Owen, is with me tonight. My address is 819 Oak Ave. We're here because...I'd like to pass this information out to the Councilmembers. This is what we've been dealing with for the past 24 hours. There has been an issue with pit bulls running amuck in our neighborhood. Last night, 10:30 p.m. my cat is out in his own yard, in his kept yard and these two pit bulls come from wherever and come into my back yard and maul him to death and it's a vicious mulling. Because you know pit bulls kill animals? They grab them by the neck, they break their spine. They don't kill them and then as the animal is laying there, these dogs are ripping it apart and it's alive and watching everything that's being done to it and it can't move and it can't cry out for help. It's been three cats that have been killed like this. There are dogs running everywhere. The one lady caddy-cornered to us, she's got five pit bulls. She doesn't tie any of them on. These two dogs, I just found out tonight, we're pretty sure they live on Seth Way (sp?) which is the very next street over. Nobody's doing anything. We call the police, he doesn't do a blasted thing. He gets mad at me because I'm in my car going up the street with a flash light trying to find these dogs. I'm not calling to them or anything. I'm not making any sounds. I'm just looking in between the houses trying to find these dogs and he threatened me. A police officer threatens me, alright, because I'm trying to protect my family and as far as I'm concerned, my pets are my family. I looked at the City ordinance. It says that the only way you can shoot the son-of-a-bitch is if he attacks a person. I'm sorry. To me, my animals are family. What are you going to do? You going to stand there and say "Don't do that doggy, don't do that doggy". This (the pictures) is what you end up with up. A mauled, mangled pet. Nobody does anything. Nobody does a blasted thing. My neighbor across the street, I told her about it and she said "Heck with the damn police", sorry. Her husband, he will go out there and he will shoot the son-of-a-guns first and deal with the consequences afterwards. I'm sorry, but that's what it's going to come down to. Because nobody does and dang thing about these dogs that are running amuck in the southeast section. Now I don't know where else there may be a problem. I don't know, but, it's just like

the kids running up and down the street in their cars at 50 m.p.h. The police don't do a blasted thing. The police don't do a blasted thing about the dogs. You know, we moved to Massillon two years ago because we thought it would be a heck of a lot better than Canton and it is. But it's getting to be a real major disappointment anymore and don't want to live in a place that doesn't care about what is going on with the people who are supposed to be making up the City. It doesn't make sense to me. Look at the pictures. If those were your dogs, your cats, wouldn't you be pissed off? And you can't do a thing about it.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you for your comments, Barbara. Perhaps after the meeting, someone from the Administration can talk to you, if that's okay? Anyone else?

18. ADJOURNMENT

COUNCILMAN GREGG – I move we adjourn.

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

DIANE ROLLAND, COUNCIL CLERK

CLAUDETTE ISTNICK, PRESIDENT