MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING MASSILLON CITY COUNCIL HELD TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2024

<u>COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER</u> – Welcome to the Massillon City Council Meeting for Tuesday, February 20, 2024. We have in attendance the following City officials: Mayor, Jamie Slutz, Safety Service Director, Renee Baker, Law Director, Justin Richard, Asst. Law Director, Edmond Mack, Chief Counsel, Earle Wise Jr., City Engineer, Alex Pitts and Director of Development, Ted Herncane. Under #5 on the agenda is where the public can speak on any topic that appears on tonight's agenda and under #17 is where the public can speak on any topic that does NOT appear on tonight's agenda. I'd like to remind you that if you have a cell phone, please set it to mute, vibrate or turn it off. Thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Roll call.

1. ROLL CALL

Roll call for the evening found the following Council Members present: Jill Creamer, Sarita Cunningham, Mike Gregg, Julie Harwig Smith, Ed Lewis, Mark Lombardi, Eric Ray and Mike Snee.

Roll call of 8 present

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Thank you, Madam Clerk.

2. **INVOCATION**

COUNCILWOMAN JILL KCREAMER

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

LED BY COUNCILWOMAN CREAMER

4. READING OF THE JOURNAL

<u>COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER</u> – Thank you, Councilwoman Creamer. Madam Clerk are the minutes of the previous meeting transcribed and open for public viewing?

<u>COUNCIL CLERK ROLLAND</u> – Yes they are.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Are there any additions or corrections to be made?

COUNCIL CLERK ROLLAND – No, there are not.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – If not, then the minutes stand approved as written.

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

GAYLE DANZY – Good afternoon. I live in Ward 1 and something that I wanted to speak to that's on the agenda has to do with a vote that you're going to do regarding litigation. So my

request, I know most litigation goes into executive session and we're not aware of all that's consist of. Unfortunately, I am aware of what's going on. So, my request to Council is that you listen more closely to the City when they do things. Ask more questions and try to get to the place where possibly we won't be involved in, I'm going to say, unnecessary litigation. Thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Thank you. Anyone else that would like to speak tonight?

NICK LOGAN – I don't live in Massillon because it's considered Perry Twp. I live right on Warmington Rd. which is Massillon all the way up until you hit the railroad tracks. So, what I'm here about is that your road project and my question is, as I read in the paper today which roads you folks are going to do, and you're not going to be doing anything on Warmington Rd. and it's just a mess. It's a commercial, industrial road with nothing but semis and once you cross over the railroad tracks, it's Perry Twp. That part of the road is perfect and your part of the road which you folks maintain, is terrible. It's just one big pothole. There's no way to get on either side. I own multiple properties in Massillon and three of the properties that you are going paved are right in front of three of my houses. None of those roads are as bad as what Warmington is. So, that's the only reason I came to see what was going on and what your game plan is. How are you going to take care of it? I did talk to one of the engineers, whether it's this gentleman back here or not, I have no idea. But, he said he paved it two years ago. Now you might have. But if you did, you really need to get your money back because it's all peeled. It's just one big pothole and if any of you folks who drove along Menard's and go that way, it's undriveable. I actually popped one of my tires two years ago off my car by hitting one of the potholes. So, that's what I'm here to state.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Thank you and we appreciate that.

6. NEW AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Councilman Lombardi.

<u>COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI</u> – Thank you, President Slater. In accordance with Division (G)(3) of Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code, I move that we enter into executive session to include all present Members of Council, President of Council, Mayor Jamie Slutz, Director of Development, Ted Herncane, Safety Service Director, Renee Baker, Law Director, Justin Richard, Asst. Law Director, Edmond Mack, Chief Counsel, Earle Wise for the purpose of Discussing pending litigation.

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

8 yes to enter into Executive Session – 6:35 p.m.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Councilman Lombardi

COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI – I'd like to make a motion that we exit executive session.

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

8 yes to exit executive session – 6:45 p.m.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Thank you, Madam Clerk.

7. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Ord. No. 24 – 2024.

ORDINANCE NO. 24 – 2024 BY: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the Mayor of the City of Massillon, Ohio, to enter into an agreement with Brian Selinsky of CEI Crane & Rigging to provide an economic development "inducement grant" to provide funds to assist with relocation expenses associated with moving the business to 1369 Sanders Ave. N.W., Massillon, Ohio.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Councilman Ray.

COUNCILMAN RAY – Thank you, President Slater. We discussed this ordinance in the Work Session last week. We heard from the Director of Development, Ted Herncane and the President of CEI explaining the purpose and the benefits associated with giving them this inducement grant for their relocation expenses. At this time, I would like to bring forth to Council if there are any other questions on this matter? No? So, I make a motion that we waive the rules regarding three readings and bring Ord. No. 24 – 2024 forward for a vote.

<u>COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER</u> – Seconded by Councilwoman Cunningham. Roll call for suspension.

8 yes for suspension

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – And for passage.

8 yes for passage

<u>COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER</u> – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 24 – 2024 has passed. Ord. No. 25 – 2024.

ORDINANCE NO. 25 – 2024

BY: STREETS, HIGHWAYS, TRAFFIC & SAFETY COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the Director of Public Service and Safety of the City of Massillon, Ohio, to advertise for and receive sealed bids and to enter into a contract with the lowest and best bidder, upon the approval of the Board of Control, for the 2024 Street Resurfacing Project Contract, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Councilman Snee.

<u>COUNCILMAN SNEE</u> – Thank you, President Slater. This is just for our 2024 resurfacing project. I intend to give this first reading as pending if we have no further questions at this time from Council. Mr. Lewis.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Did you say you were going to give this first reading or move forward with the vote tonight?

<u>COUNCILMAN SNEE</u> – My intention was to give it first reading pending some questions from some constituents in my ward, however, I've already answered those questions over a year ago that is concerning 24th and 25th and the sewer replacement project which is under way. So, I mean, nothing's going to change on that. So, I don't mind bringing it forward to a vote.

<u>COUNCILMAN LEWIS</u> – I just asked because I know that we're trying to get out in front of the bid process so that we can get these projects under contract and we can actually get them completed. But if there's legitimate concerns or questions coming from the constituents then there's legitimate questions and we'll have to wait.

<u>COUNCILMAN SNEE</u> – Right. There are legitimate questions, but like I said, they've already been answered as far as I can tell.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Councilwoman Harwig Smith.

<u>COUNCILWOMAN HARWIG SMITH</u> – Thank you. I also wonder if I could ask a question of the engineer.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Mr. Pitts, please come forward. Thank you.

ALEX PITTS – Good evening, Council.

<u>COUNCILWOMAN HARWIG SMITH</u> – So my question is, if they...thank you for addressing my concerns about the roads that are not on the list, I'm sure all of the other wards are like my ward and there's so many roads in Massillon. I thought it was real beneficial how he explained, too, how they may not this year, but they're trying to group things together so that they're not jumping all over when they're paving in areas. You might see a couple of roads and maybe one is not as worse as the other, but it's better to get that group done and move on. But what I was wondering, the roads that we talked about like when I talk about Overlook, Niles, 14th, 15th. So, it's like alternate roads if we have more funds and more time, are you making a list of like those so we'll have a concrete list that'll be our backup roads if we're able to get to them?

ALEX PITTS – Yes. So, the roads that we had spoke about; 14th, 15th, Niles...yes, those are definitely on our backup lists. Should prices come in more than expected, we'll add more roads to the 2024 street resurfacing program. Regarding Warmington, I just want to really quick go over that. We are planning to submit that road OPWC funds later in the year. We are aware of the current condition of Warmington and it's more than what the street resurfacing program would be able to handle currently. The entire base is compromised. It's more than just the surface, the stress level we're talking about. When I had spoke last week about the pavement layers, we're down at the bottom. There's a sub-base at the very bottom which is fine, but the base is what needs to be repaired. Pretty much the entire length of Warmington. So, it's a lot larger of a project than using mill and fill type of job. So in our resurfacing program, we mill out two inches of asphalt and put two inches back. This would require six to eight inches depending on the depth of the pavement build-up of Warmington. So, that's why it's not on the 2024 street resurfacing list. But, we are aware of it and we're trying to look for grants for that project since its going to be a stand-alone project.

<u>COUNCILWOMAN HARWIG SMITH</u> – Right. That makes absolute sense. In the meantime, as far as the potholes that are real bad right now since the weather's getting better, it seems like someone could go out there and patch those up in the City area, since it'll be a while; we can at least fill the holes.

<u>ALEX PITTS</u> – So, we did that two years ago and the issue with doing that is being when we submitted for OPCW funds last time, we had just patched it and didn't score favorable at SCATS it didn't look better. So we don't want the road to look to good and not get grant funding.

<u>COUNCILWOMAN HARWIG SMITH</u> – So we need to go and make the holes a little bit bigger and knock more tires off the rim and then we can get the money and go...okay. Thank you so much for answering my questions. That's all I have. I'm okay, Mike, whatever you want to do.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Councilwoman Cunningham.

<u>COUNCILWOMAN CUNNINGHAM</u> – Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. Pitts, I wanted to thank you and I wanted to put this on record. We discussed a certain road in Ward 1 that I was very concerned about. He called me back the very next day and gave me an answer which was favorable. I want to thank you very much for that. I was impressed.

ALEX PITTS – Of course.

<u>COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER</u> – Any more questions? Thanks for your help in answering the question on the Warmington Rd. situation. Councilman Snee.

<u>COUNCILMAN SNEE</u> – Based on the information, I would like to move forward with this because I do want to get out front and get the roads repaired this year and stop bringing in a reoccurring problem we keep running into. More of it goes on to the next year such as we're paving most of our 2023 roads still. So, at this time if there's no further, which I don't believe there is, I'd like to make a motion that we waive the rule requiring three readings and bring Ord. No. 25 – 2024 forward for a vote.

<u>COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER</u> – Seconded by Councilwoman Creamer. Roll call for suspension.

8 yes for suspension

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – And for passage.

8 yes for passage

<u>COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER</u> – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 25 – 2024 has passed. Ord. No. 26 – 2024.

ORDINANCE NO. 26 – 2024 BY: FINANCE COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE making certain appropriations from the unappropriated balance of the 1201 Street Construction M & R Fund, for the year ending December 31, 2024, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Councilman Lewis.

<u>COUNCILMAN LEWIS</u> – Yes. This ordinance is complimentary to Ord. No. 25. This is the actual funding. It's an additional \$1.4 million dollars. I will say that it's exciting this year because this is a larger appropriation of what we normally have. We're able to do a total project of about \$2.4 million dollars. So, we have a few extra thousands of dollars and that is due to strength in our community in the collections and continued support of our citizens who have a street levy out there in the first place. So, thank you for the community for supporting this and the projects that we're doing. Does anybody have any questions? Seeing none, I make a motion that we suspend the rules requiring three readings, bringing Ord. No. 26 – 2024 forward for a vote.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Seconded by Councilman Gregg. Roll call for suspension.

8 yes for suspension

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – And for passage.

8 yes for passage

<u>COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER</u> – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 26 – 2024 has passed. Ord. No. 27 – 2024.

ORDINANCE NO. 27 – 2024 BY: FINANCE COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE making certain appropriations from the unappropriated balance of the 1237 Economic Development Fund, for the year ending December 31, 2024.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Councilman Lewis.

<u>COUNCILMAN LEWIS</u> – Yes. This is a \$15,000.00 appropriation to fund the economic development grant that we approved in Ord. No. 24. Are there any questions or any further discussion? Seeing none, I make a motion that we suspend the rules requiring three readings, bringing Ord. No. 27 – 2024 forward for a vote.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Seconded by Councilman Gregg. Roll call for suspension.

8 yes for suspension

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – And for passage.

8 yes for passage

<u>COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER</u> – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 27 – 2024 has passed. Res. No. 13 – 2024.

RESOLUTION NO. 13 – 2024 BY: FINANCE COMMITTEE

A RESOLUTION authorizing the sale, during calendar year 2024, of city-owned personal property, including motor vehicles, equipment, tools, or supplies, which are not needed for public use, or are obsolete or unfit for the use for which they were acquired, by internet auction, and declaring the same to be an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Councilman Lewis.

<u>COUNCILMAN LEWIS</u> – Yes. This is an annual resolution that we complete. It is so that we are able to unload property that we are no longer in use of. It is done on the internet and people can go on and bid on it and take it home. Are there any questions or discussion this evening? Seeing none, I make a motion that we suspend the rules requiring three readings, bringing Res. No. 13 – 2024 forward for a vote.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Seconded by Councilman Gregg. Roll call for suspension.

8 yes for suspension

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – And for passage.

8 yes for passage

<u>COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER</u> – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Res. No. 13 – 2024 has passed. Res. No. 14 – 2024.

RESOLUTION NO. 14 – 2024 BY: FINANCE COMMITTEE

A RESOLUTION authorizing and approving the settlement reached in the litigation captioned as *Rubin v. City of Massillon*, pending in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio as Case No. 5:23-cv-02324, and declaring the same to be an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Yes. This is the legislation dealing as it states in this title Rubin's or what was formerly known as Tiger Rags that was torn down last year. In order to make this to go into effect, I do have to make an amendment. So, I do make a motion that we amend Res. No. 14 – 2024 to include the title as just read by the Clerk of Council, Section 1 to read, "Council hereby approves the settlement of the litigation captioned as *Rubin v. City of Massillon*, N.D. Ohio No. 5:23-cv-02324 upon the terms reflected in the Settlement Agreement and the Mutual Release attached here, and the Director of Public Service and Safety is hereby authorized and directed to execute the same". Section 2, "All Resolutions or Ordinances or parts of thereof in conflict with this Resolution are repealed. If any provision of this Resolution is judged invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such judgement shall not affect or invalidate the remainder". Section 3 would be standardized language that we use for typographical errors allowing the Clerk to make those corrections. Section 4 would be our standardized language to make this go into effect under emergency procedures. If there are no questions, let my motion stand.

<u>COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER</u> – Seconded by Councilman Lombardi. Roll call for the amendment.

8 yes to amend Res. No. 14 - 2024

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Councilman Lewis.

<u>COUNCILMAN LEWIS</u> – Yes. So now Res. No. 14 - 2024 is at first reading. Does anyone have any questions or discussion regarding this? Within the settlement packet it does entail the details of what the City's responsibilities are, what the Rubin's responsibilities are and what the hopes of future plans for that property are and with that said, I make a motion we suspend the rules requiring three readings, bringing Res. No. 14 - 2024 forward for a vote.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Seconded by Councilman Gregg. Roll call for suspension.

8 yes for suspension

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – And for passage.

8 yes for passage

<u>COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER</u> – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Res. No. 14 – 2024 has passed. Res. No. 15 – 2024.

RESOLUTION NO. 15 – 2024 BY: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

A RESOLUTION appointing **Julie Harwig Smith** to the Historic Preservation Commission of the City of Massillon, Ohio, as the Massillon City Council representative, for the term expiring December 31, 2025.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Councilman Lombardi.

<u>COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI</u> – Thank you, President Slater. If nobody has any objections, I'm going to bring this forward tonight. Seeing none, I make a motion that we suspend the rules requiring three readings and bring Res. No. 15 – 2024 forward for a vote.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Seconded by Councilman Snee. Roll call for suspension.

8 yes for suspension

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – And for passage.

8 yes for passage

<u>COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER</u> – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Res. No. 15 – 2024 has passed.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

9. PETITIONS AND GENERAL COMMINCATIONS

A Request for a New Liquor License for Chipotle Mexican Grill of Colorado, LLC, DBA Chipotle Mexican Grill 4234 located at 2548 Lincoln Way E., Massillon, Ohio, 44646. Permit Class is D1 and is located in Ward 3.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Councilman Gregg, did you receive a copy?

COUNCILMAN GREGG – I did not.

COUNCIL CLERK ROLLAND – You did not?

COUNCILMAN GREGG – Unless it was in an e-mail that I didn't read.

COUNCIL CLERK ROLLAND – I usually put a copy in your mailbox.

COUNCILMAN GREGG – Mr. President, I do now have a copy of that permit request.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Thank you.

10. BILLS, ACCOUNTS AND CLAIMS

US Bank Equipment Finance - \$ 241.30 February Payment for Copier Bonnie's Engravers Gallery - <u>132.00</u> Name Plates and Rubber Stamp

Total - \$ 373.30

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – I make a motion to pay the bills.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Seconded by Councilman Lombardi. Roll call.

8 yes to pay the bills

<u>COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER</u> – The Clerk will pay the bills and charge them to their proper accounts.

11. REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Mayor's Report - January 2024

12. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

<u>COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER</u> – Our next Work Session will be Monday, February 26, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.

13. RESOLUTIONS AND REQUESTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

14. CALL OF THE CALENDAR

15. THIRD READING ORDINANCE AND RESOLUTIONS

16. SECOND READING ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Ord. No. 9 – 2024

ORDINANCE NO. 9 – 2024 BY: PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the Director of Parks and Recreation of the City of Massillon, Ohio, on behalf of the Massillon Recreation Board, to advertise for and receive sealed bids and to enter into a contract with the lowest and best bidder, upon the approval of the Board of Control, for the Wampler Park Pickleball Court Project, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Councilwoman Harwig Smith.

COUNCILWOMAN HARWIG SMITH – Thank you, Mr. President. Ord. No. 9 is a request for the Wampler Park Pickleball Court Project. This project was approved in the Parks and Recreation budget and the money is all coming from the Parks and Recreation Funds. It includes four pickleball courts, excavating, blacktop, fencing all around and other stuff that goes with it. The estimated cost is \$200,000.00. This is just to go out and go for bids. They want to get started with this so we can get moving on this project. Like I said, it was supported by the Recreation Board. With that being said, does anybody have any questions? In that case, I'd like to waive the rules requiring three readings and bring Ord. No. 9 – 2024 up for a vote.

<u>COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER</u> – Seconded by Councilwoman Creamer. Roll call for suspension.

8 yes for suspension

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – And for passage.

8 yes for passage

<u>COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER</u> – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 9 – 2024 has passed. Ord. No. 20 – 2024.

ORDINANCE NO. 20 – 2024 BY: STREETS, HIGHWAYS, TRAFFIC AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the Director of Public Safety and Service of the City of Massillon, Ohio, to participate as a member in the Community, University, Education Council of Governments (CUE-COG) for the purchase of road salt, fuel, and vehicles or other goods as determined by the CUE COG Board, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Councilman Snee.

<u>COUNCILMAN SNEE</u> – Thank you, President Slater. Ord. No. 20 – 2024 is for the program of CUE-COG. I'm ready to move forward. We had discussion on this last Work Session. Unless there's any Council Member that would respectfully object and request a second reading, I think saving the taxpayers over \$40,000.00 would be a good reason to move forward tonight.

So, at this time, does any member of Council have any questions? Seeing none, I'd like to make a motion that we waive the rules requiring three readings and bring Ord. No. 20 - 2024 forward for a vote.

<u>COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER</u> – Seconded by Councilwoman Creamer. Roll call for suspension.

8 yes for suspension

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – And for passage.

8 yes for passage

<u>COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER</u> – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 20 – 2024 has passed.

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

GAYLE DANZY – Two things I want to discuss; I want to bring up again that I believe that consideration should be given to having an EEO officer for the City and I would like to see Council, if possible, discuss it in their committee and send it to whoever needs to know to make that decision. The second thing I want to discuss is that Council agreed to hire a consultant to help the Development Director to do a five-year plan for CDBG. I started working with the City and CDBG. I actually know the lady that wrote the CDBG regs. And I started working with them in 1994 and then, there was no one that helped the Development Director or whatever his title was at that time. So, there's \$13,000.00 that being paid to this consultant. I'm told that there's no money for the EEO Officer and I support the fact that we need an animal control person, but there is somebody kind of doing that now. So, I would believe that the representation of people is more important than having an animal control officer. And lastly, and I'm going to try to remain calm on this one because I have been upset for two weeks. I'm so proud of myself that in the fourth grade I received an award for reciting the Preamble, for knowing the amendments of the Constitution. That was when I was in the fourth grade so you know that was a long, long time ago. So when my rights were violated in the last meeting when I was told that I could not speak, I knew at the time that my rights were being violated, but I wanted to say what I had to say. So, I apologized because that's who I am. I apologized so that I could say what I needed to say. Since that time, I know that serve somebody higher than me and bigger than all of you. So, He has spoken to me not to say all those things that I had planned to say tonight. He has spoken to me to say to you and to pray for you that you will do the things that are right. I know for a fact that there are those of you. not those of you, but at least one of you who does not support the acknowledgement of African Americans and has said that publicly. So I know if you don't support a Black History month, I know you don't support recognizing them who they got the right to vote after three hundred years of becoming a citizen. But that's a whole nother meeting. So what I want to say is that you violated my rights when told me what I could not say. I could say that. So, in violating my rights you have subjected yourselves to a lawsuit and there are Councils all over the state that are doing lawsuits because of what's happening in Council. And one of them has won. That's not my desire because the God I serve didn't tell me to do that. The God I serve told me to

pray for you that you would do the right thing for all people and that instead of just reciting each week, "I pledge allegiance to flag of the United States of America" and if we recited it right, it's not "one nation under God". It's one nation under God. I don't recite that because I don't believe that for a second. I haven't lived to see that. The last line says "with liberty and justice for all". So, I'm waiting for that day that I live in a country, a state and a city where there is liberty and justice for all. Thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Thank you. Anyone else that would like to speak tonight?

18. ADJOURNMENT

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Councilwoman Creamer.

COUNCILWOMAN CREAMER – I make a motion to adjourn.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Seconded by Councilman Ray. Roll call.

8 yes to adjourn

R, PRESIDENT