

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
MASSILLON CITY COUNCIL
HELD MONDAY, AUGUST 7, 2023**

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Welcome to the Massillon City Council Meeting for Monday, August 7, 2023. We have in attendance the following City officials: Mayor, Kathy Catazaro-Perry, Safety Service Director, Barb Sylvester, Chief Counsel, Asst. Law Director, Edmond Mack, and Economic Development Director, David Maley. 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 ISTNICK – Roll call.

1. ROLL CALL

Roll call for the evening found the following Council Members present: Jill Creamer, Mike Gregg, Julie Harwig Smith, Ted Herncane, Ed Lewis, Mark Lombardi, Jamie Slutz, Mike Snee and Aaron Violand.

Roll call of 9 present

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Would you please stand and join me in the Lord’s prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. INVOCATION

COUNCILMAN ED LEWIS

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

LED BY COUNCILMAN LEWIS

4. READING OF THE JOURNAL

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you, Councilman Lewis. 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.

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

J.D. RESS – Massillon Live. Of course, Massillon Live serves the community. All of you are well aware of that. Last year we had visitors of about 156,000 people. That's a lot of people. I'm here tonight just to give you both news before you make a decision. I believe it's Ord. No. 74 – 2023 about removing any media from over here because it's a security issue. Basically, I'm not quite sure; I've been here for fifteen years. Long before most of you have even been around on Council and in doing so, I have never had a problem. There's never been an issue and that is actually, logistically, the best area to make you look good. I get everybody's faces unless Mr. Lombardi. I might have to come around to get a side shot of him, but, it's a great front shot of everybody. I think probably the only question that you might have I think is important is, is it a fire hazard? I never thought of myself as a fire hazard. So, in that case, I would probably ask that you maybe check with the Fire Chief to determine if that is a problem. I know from time to time when Diane comes around, I step back. The actual tripod itself, I can pick it up and move it and be out of here in less than one second. So, when it comes to issues with problems with evacuation, I don't know. Maybe that's something we'd have to do a study on, I have no idea. That's up to you. But, again, I've been here for fifteen years. There's never been a problem. I understand the security issue, but I don't regard the media as a security issue and if you ban me from over there, you're also banning Mr. Whitlock from The Independent. You're banning 3, 5 and 8 on the legislation. Nobody can be over there and when it comes to media, I think that's an issue. But, it's your choice. I just wanted to give you both views and most importantly, get out tomorrow and vote. Thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you, J.D. Anyone else?

GEORGE GLIBA – 222 Lake Ave. N.E., Massillon. I am a taxpayer. I'm looking at Ord. No. 79 – 2023 about Lake St.; this study. I think it's at the wrong intersection. I think it should be down at Erie and Lake. It gets bottle-necked up there and at certain times of the day, people are turning right on red coming, that would be south on Erie and they're turning right on red, which I had talked to Barb previously about that and I thought 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m., you couldn't turn right on red. Not all day, but during work schedules and stuff like that and then also, the traffic gets backed up to my driveway, if that means anything to anybody. I live on Lake and I know Lombardi lives over there too, but, I go through that intersection at Amherst and Lake all the time. I rarely see a problem. The one problem I do notice is that the hedges at that tire dealership when you're pulling out of Marc's, you can't see over it and you got to get out into Lake St. a little bit too much than you want to and people might over compensate and pull out onto Lake St. But, that is an issue at that tire shop on the corner. As far as this study, I think it should go a little bit further and go down to Lake and Erie, because if that traffic's backing up to my driveway, it's almost to Keuper. I mean, if it gets to my driveway, it goes beyond and almost to Keuper. So, there's a problem right there. So, I really don't agree with this. Because I see traffic flowing through there all the time. So, that's my point of view. I mean, hopefully you'll discuss it and take a look down at Lake and Erie. Thank you for your time.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you, George.

COUNCIL CLERK ROLLAND – And George, I think you mean First and Lake?

GEORGE GLIBA – Well, it splits. To the right is Erie, to the left its First, right? Well, it turns into Erie.

COUNCIL CLERK ROLLAND – Erie is where the Rec. Center is.

GEORGE GLIBA – No. It turns into Erie St. as you go further out, doesn't it?

COUNCIL – Yes.

COUNCIL CLERK ROLLAND – 241?

GEORGE GLIBA – Yeah. It changes names.

COUNCIL CLERK ROLLAND – Okay.

GEORGE GLIBA – You might be right; I might be wrong. I'll admit to it, but when you turn right, First turns into Erie or Erie starts right there. Somewhere it changes. It might be at Gail, I'm not sure. But, I'm not sure. I apologize.

COUNCIL CLERK ROLLAND – That's okay.

GEORGE GLIBA – Thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Anyone else?

6. **NEW AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

7. **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Ord. No. 78 – 2023.

ORDINANCE NO. 78 – 2023

BY: PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the Director of Parks and Recreation, on behalf of the Massillon Recreation Board and the City of Massillon, Ohio, to accept a donation for the Improvement of Lawndale Park Project, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilwoman Harwig Smith

COUNCILWOMAN HARWIG SMITH – Thank you, President Istnick. This is an ordinance to receive a donation. The Lawndale Improvement Project is a group of people that got together to honor Jake Brown. He's a young man; he was sixteen years old. I think he died in a car crash, went to Central Catholic and he grew up playing at this park and they wanted to do things to make it nicer. Steve was going to come today and give you an update on it. They're putting in the wall ball; their getting ready to put in that. This is with all money of their donations and it's going to have a memorial of Jake painted on it for soccer, lacrosse, racquetball. Their putting in a pit. The Parks Dept., they paved all the basketball courts, including Lawndale and they're planning on getting the sidewalks fixed so that handicap people can wheel to the areas too. I'd like to go ahead and...if anyone had any questions? If not, I'd like to waive the three readings and bring this up for a vote tonight.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Seconded by Councilman Gregg. 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. 78 – 2023 has passed. Ord. No. 79 - 2023

ORDINANCE NO. 79 – 2023

BY: STREETS, HIGHWAYS, TRAFFIC AND 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 Lake Ave. N.E. and Amherst Road N.E. Intersection Improvement Project, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Before I call on Councilman Snee, for the record, our Auditor, Jayne Ferrero is also in attendance with us this evening. Councilman Snee.

COUNCILMAN SNEE – Thank you, President Istnick. Seeing how this is for the advertising and to receive sealed bids for Lake and Amherst intersection and while do agree with the account as we heard tonight that there are also other intersections that have issues; those need to be looked at separately as well. So, confident moving forward, I'd like to make a motion that we waive the rules requiring three readings and bring Ord. No. 79 – 2023 forward for a vote.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Seconded by Councilwoman Creamer. 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. 79 – 2023 has passed. Ord. No. 80 – 2023.

ORDINANCE NO. 80 – 2023

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, 2023, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Yes. This ordinance just coincides with the ordinance that we just spoke of. Does anybody have any discussion this evening? I make a motion that we suspend the rules requiring three readings, bringing Ord. No. 80 – 2023 forward for a vote.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Seconded by Councilman Lombardi. 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. 80 – 2023 has passed. Ord. No. 81 – 2023.

ORDINANCE NO. 81 – 2023

BY: FINANCE COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE making certain appropriations from the unappropriated balance of the 1100 General Fund, for the year ending December 31, 2023, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Yes. This is an appropriation of \$150,000. This is for the income tax refunds; just to make sure we have the funds in the right account for the remainder of the year hopefully for any claims of overpaid that we owe refunds to. Are there any questions or discussion this evening? Seeing none, I make a motion that we suspend the rules requiring three readings, bringing Ord. No. 81 – 2023 forward for a vote.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Seconded by Councilman Gregg. 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. 81 – 2023 has passed. Res. No. 5 – 2023.

RESOLUTION NO. 5 – 2023

BY: FINANCE COMMITTEE

AN RESOLUTION approving the 2024 Stark County Tax Budget for the City of Massillon, Ohio, as listed on the attached Exhibit “A”, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Yes Madam President, I’d like to call forward the City Auditor.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Jayne if you could come forward.

JAYNE FERRERO – Good evening.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Yes. Do you mind giving us a quick summary of what this resolution is for?

JAYNE FERRERO – Sure. This is something that we do every year. It's called a "wish list" for Stark County. It really doesn't mean a whole lot because it isn't money that has been certified in any way, shape or form. We're just giving Stark County an idea of the money that we're going to be needing in the coming year. Now, come October, I will be giving the Budget Director a certified amount of money that she can use for the budget. But that won't come until after our property taxes come in in September and we see where we're at. So, this is just a "wish list". We do it every year. We have to have it over to the County by August 20th and it's just an estimate of what we think all of the departments are going to be doing.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – I'll open it up to any questions if anybody has any.

JAYNE FERRERO – Any questions, sure.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lombardi.

COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI – Thank you, President Istnick. Every year we hear that we do every year and this is just a "wish list", but then in October when we come up with changes that we'd like to see to the budget, we are told in August that we submitted this to the County and we cannot deviate from that. So, I mean, what is it? Can we change this when it comes to the actual budget or not?

JAYNE FERRERO – Oh sure. When you get the actual budget, you can change anything that you want. That's what you approve. But, this is just a "wish list" that we went through. We said how much every department is going to need for salaries, for travel, for schooling; for those kind of things that we anticipate. It's not anything that is etched in stone. The budget that you get towards the end of the year is what is etched in stone and you can change that at any time. This is just a "wish list".

COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI – I just remember when we were looking at animal control and we wanted to add it into the budget in October and we were told "no" that it was not what we certified to the County in August and that's what I'm trying to avoid here. First off, we're given this, we're given a week to review it and told it has to be passed and we need, well, I need more than a week to review an entire City budget. It took you a lot longer than a week to put it together and you want us to review it and approve it, it's going to a longer than a week for that.

JAYNE FERRERO – This is not a set budget. It is only a "wish list". It's what Stark County asked us to send them. I think that they do have to do some filing with the State, but, it has nothing to do with our annual budget which you all approve in December. It has nothing to do with that.

COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI – Okay.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Anyone else? Councilman Gregg.

COUNCILMAN GREGG – Thank you, Madam President. So, the taxes that we're talking about, since it's County, we're talking about property taxes, right?

JAYNE FERRERO – That's correct.

COUNCILMAN GREGG – So, are we saying that the County determines how much property tax dollars the City can have?

JAYNE FERRERO – Well, we get our money from the County. All property taxes all come from the County.

COUNCILMAN GREGG – Right. But our taxes are determined by the taxes that our citizens pay.

JAYNE FERRERO – That’s exactly right. And I won’t know that until October when we get our final amount of tax money in.

COUNCILMAN GREGG – So, I guess I’m just fuzzy on why we have to give the County a “wish list” when it’s our citizens tax dollars anyway.

JAYNE FERRERO – Again, I don’t mean to be coy, but it is something that we do every year, it’s called a “wish list”. It isn’t anything etched in stone. It’s just something that we do then send over to the County so they can see approximately the money that we’re going to spend.

COUNCILMAN GREGG – Okay. So it sounds like it’s a heads-up to them of what we’re going to need, but we should get 100% of what our citizens have paid, right?

JAYNE FERRERO – And that can change. It can change in October when I give the Budget Director her final certification, I give her a dollar amount and that’s what she works with all of the departments and that’s what she presents to all of you and that is the real budget. That is not a “wish list”. That is the real budget and that’s what we pay everything off of. And then, of course, when people coming back to you for more money, that comes from the unappropriated balance; not money that was in the budget.

COUNCILMAN GREGG – And so when you say that’s the real budget, that would include 100% of the property taxes paid by the citizens of Massillon?

JAYNE FERRERO – That’s correct, sir.

COUNCILMAN GREGG – Thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Any other questions? Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – I just wanted to make a comment that I wanted to make sure that and I don’t know every conversation that’s been had on the floor off memory, but I want to make sure that we, as a Council don’t confuse the certificate and this resolution. Those are two separate things. So, I do know sometimes when we get into budget talks, someone might say “Well, that’s not within the certified amount” and what they’re really meaning is if you want to fund that, then you have to take it out of somewhere else in the budget. You can’t just add it on because they’re already at their certificate limit. So, maybe that’s what they were referencing, I don’t know, but I will say that this is a resolution compared to the ordinance which the City budget is an ordinance which makes it law. This is just a resolution which does have an impact on the difference between the two. I’m assuming, you may not know, but I would assume that the County is asking this due to requirements they have under statute.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – If there's no more discussion due to the time frame presented by the Auditor, I would make a motion that we suspend the rules requiring three readings and bring Res. No. 5 – 2023 forward for a vote.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Seconded by Councilman Gregg. 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. 5 – 2023 has passed.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – I, again, have talked to Mr. Dewalt and he is working with another gentleman; I can't remember his name off the top of my head and they are looking at putting a press box behind us with audio access and they will get back to us with a final price. Anyone else?

9. PETITIONS AND GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS

10. BILLS, ACCOUNTS AND CLAIMS

11. REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Treasurer's Report - June 2023

Auditor's Report - July 2023

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – I make a motion that we accept the Auditor's Report.

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

9 yes to accept the Auditor's Report.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you, Madam Clerk. The Auditor's Report has been accepted.

12. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Our next Work Session will be Monday, August 14, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. No one has anything prior to that, do they?

COUNCIL CLERK ROLLAND – No.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Mayor, come on down.

MAYOR CATAZARO-PERRY – Good evening, Madam President, Members of Council. I'd like to give you an update tonight. We recently received a \$344,000.00 grant from the State of Ohio. It's called the Ohio First Responders Recruitment, Retention and Resilience Program. Each of our officers on police and fire will receive \$4,000.00 each and that is really to value our first responders for the work that they do and it's a recruitment and retention grant from the State of Ohio. We were just awarded that late last week. National Night Out was a huge success. We had 887 people attend the event. We even had an Army Black Hawk land and also take off later. It was really a cool thing to see and that was held at Community Park. This Saturday, August 12th, is the Kid's Fest and that is sponsored by MCTV, the DMA and Massillon Museum and that's from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. And the August 16th, our Annual Tiger Pep Rally. It's going to be at Duncan Plaza at 6:00 p.m. Thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you, Mayor.

13. RESOLUTIONS AND REQUESTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

14. CALL OF THE CALENDAR

15. THIRD READING ORDINANCE AND RESOLUTIONS

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Ord. No. 67 – 2023.

ORDINANCE NO. 67 – 2023

BY: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE amending the Zoning Map of the City of Massillon, Ohio, by rezoning certain property from B-2 Central Business District to R-1 One Family Residential, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilwoman Creamer.

COUNCILWOMAN CREAMER – Thank you, Madam President. We had discussions regarding this ordinance. It is three parcels on Oak Ave. S.E. The rezoning request from B-2 to R-1. We currently have a public hearing scheduled for August 21st at 6:00 p.m. here in Council Chambers. Does anyone have any questions regarding this today? Seeing none, I'd like to make a motion to table Ord. No. 67 – 2023 until August 21, 2023.

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

9 yes to table Ord. No. 67 – 2023 until August 21, 2023.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 67 – 2023 has been tabled until August 21, 2023.

16. SECOND READING ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Ord. No. 74 – 2023.

AN ORDINANCE amending Chapter 121 “COUNCIL”, Section 121.02(q), Rule 64, “Who is Admitted Within Bar” of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Massillon, Ohio, by enacting a new Section 121.02(q), Rule 64, “Who is admitted Within Bar” of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Massillon, Ohio, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Gregg.

COUNCILMAN GREGG – Thank you, Madam President. We’ve given this first read. Late last week, I received an email from Chief Heck regarding he and a fire inspector had been into the room and inspected this area behind us that is in question in this ordinance and determined that it is not a fire hazard to have Mr. Ress there. His email did not address security or confidentiality issues, however. Did all of Council members have a chance to look at that email and does anybody have any questions or discussion?

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilwoman Harwig Smith.

COUNCILWOMAN HARWIG SMITH – I just wanted to bring up the point and not to put Diane on the spot, but I was kind of open to it and just really trying looking at it both ways and just even last week, Mr. Hess had to move several times for Diane to get through and get her stuff; people bump into him and I know it may not be a big deal to them, but this is her office. It’s a close space, it’s small and she works for us. She works for City Council and she deserves to have a work environment and she’s working right now just like we are and if it bothers her, then I’m all for it that we have to support this. Maybe we can figure out something else like a press box or something else to work. But I think this area here needs to be respected and to respect Diane in her position and to respect people’s privacy.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Anyone else?

COUNCILMAN GREGG – Mr. Violand.

COUNCILMAN VIOLAND – Thank you, Mr. Gregg. Just briefly and I’m not trying to split hairs here, but with the language of the new ordinance, it says “Members of Council, City Officials” and then it says “...and persons invited”. I don’t know if that is limited to Council President calling them up or whoever is running the Work Session what the general practice for that would be, but that’s kind of open for interpretation, maybe. I don’t know if that would be potentially be abused in the future. Just something to consider with regard to that. I don’t know if anyone has any input on how that is to be interpreted, but, just putting it out there.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Gregg.

COUNCILMAN GREGG – My feeling is that, that’s regarding people that we invite podium to speak which is a common thing and it never includes this area. So, I wouldn’t think that that would matter or be prudent to the situation. So, any other questions or concerns? If not, I intend to bring this forward for a vote tonight. Each Councilman can vote the way they see fit. So, I’d like make a motion that we waive the rules requiring three readings and bring Ord. No. 74 – 2023 forward for a vote.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Seconded by Councilman Herncane. 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. 74 – 2023 has passed. Ord. No. 77 – 2023.

ORDINANCE NO. 77 – 2023

BY: FINANCE COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE to repurpose funds in the 1100 General Fund “City Improvement Projects” account, for the year ending December 31, 2023.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Second reading.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you, Councilman Lewis. Ord. No. 77 – 2023 has received second reading.

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

GAYLE DANZY – Massillon, Ohio. Just kind of a reminder of some things that I had brought up before. I don’t know where we are with the grant that was used for the demolition of the property; haven’t heard anything about that in a little while, so I don’t know if we’re still working on that, but hopefully, that will come forth soon. And then something that I brought up a long, long time ago is, I don’t want to use the word punishment, but coming up with something for our slum landlords’ downtown. Something to get them to fix their properties so that it can be sold. Our downtown historic area or all of the area can be nice. I still feel as long as they are not required to do anything for being slum landlords, they will continue to be slum landlords. So, I haven’t heard that talked about in a while either. So, I just wanted to bring it up as a reminder and hopefully that Council will say something or do something and I was reprimanded not to mention names, but you know the person who owns at least properties down there. So, I hope something will be done that will make them want to fix their property up. And I think I’ve been talking about this for at least three months. So I’m hoping it will come forward soon. Thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you, Gayle. Anyone else?

GEORGE GLIBA – Massillon, Ohio. I am a taxpayer. I just want to piggy back on what she said. She said something three months ago which leads me to what I really want to address here is that I talked to Madam President a couple of weeks ago about maybe having an open forum here one Monday a month to where we could ask you questions and get answers back. It’s going to increase the transparency of this body because a lot of times when this session is over, everyone’s in a hustle and bustle to get out of here. It’s been a long day; everyone works and it’s already 7 o’clock. I get that. But a lot of times people ask questions here and the

people that show up here every week would like, like me for instance, if Gayle's asking a question of somebody, protocol is to wait until the end and that person will talk to you. So, unless this body really doesn't know what the conversation is about. So, that being said, I think the citizens of Massillon need to be more informed about what's going on with this body and I also think with the seats coming up for re-election, it'll help your campaign, if you have a campaign, I think it would help transparency. So, that being said, I'd like to see one Monday a month where we can come up and ask questions and get answers because to this point, there's a lot of discussion that's never heard. I like to be informed because, like I said before, when I come here I like to know that I'm talking about for the most part. But, that being said, I also wanted to mention that I remember one time when I came up here several years ago when Milan and Manson were up here on the body that people would actually come to the people that show up here and thank them for coming. Now that's gone away. Even a gesture of "hello, how you doing" would help. I don't have a problem saying "hi" to somebody, but when you come in and don't really look at anybody and just go to your seat, I think professionalism would go a long way to where you're open to maybe talking to somebody and discussing something with somebody about what's going on in the City because I care about Massillon. Just coming up here, just the minimal of the parking lot over in Aaron's ward. We've been fussing about that for months. What do they do? They did half of it. They filled in half of the parking lot. So, the other half still got holes. I don't get it. So, that being said, if we could have an open forum here it would be much appreciated by me and I think the citizens here in Massillon. So, maybe we can get that going. Thanks for your time.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thank you, George. I've been negligent getting back out into the audience and shaking hands and I will start doing that again.

GEORGE GLIBA – I understand. I know you got a lot on your plate.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Not that much that I can't get out there, George.

GEORGE GLIBA – Alright. Sounds good.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Anyone else?

CHRIS KETLER – Massillon, Ohio. I'm a business taxpayer, I guess. But thanks for your time. First I'm going to have to address the room I guess. I'm going to miss seeing your faces as I watch Massillon Live Council meetings' broadcast and now I'll have to watch the back of the heads; just like when we sit here. So, but that's not what I came to talk about. I came tonight to show my support for the DORA. I believe this was the night to reach out and say a few words about it. I think it's a great idea. I hope we're all going to pull together and do that. I know there was a lot of comments and questions throughout the process. One of the things I'd just like to remind you that this is a process like anything. We're not just going to add beer and shape vigorously and have a vibrant downtown that's going to come with a bunch of problems. It will slowly develop into something over time. But I hope that we'll have the opportunity to at least have it develop. Thanks for your time.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Thanks, Chris.

CHRIS KETLER – Thank you.

J. DAVID RESS – J. David, again. I’m just letting Chris know that we’re still going to be here. It’s just that we’re not going to be over there.

CHRIS KETLER – Yeah, I’ll have to see the back of their heads, though.

J. DAVID RESS – I know.

CHRIS KETLER – Before I could see the faces. You know what I’m saying.

J. DAVID RESS – That’s true, that’s true. Somebody’s got to hold you accountable. So, we’re going to do that on behalf of the public.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Anyone else?

18. **ADJOURNMENT**

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – I make a motion that we adjourn.

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

9 yes to adjourn

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISTNICK – Meeting adjourned.

DIANE ROLLAND, COUNCIL CLERK

CLAUDETTE ISTNICK, PRESIDENT