

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS, OHIO

Monday, June 10, 2019

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:00 p.m. by Council President Matt Burke.

INVOCATION BY: Councilman Michael Dudley, Sr.

ROLL CALL: **PRESENT:** Council Members Dudley, LaMalfa, Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn

READING AND DISPOSAL OF MINUTES:

PRESIDENT BURKE: Reading and Disposal of the Minutes from our Regular Council Meeting of Monday, May 13, 2019.

CLMN SUSTER: Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Mr. Suster.

CLMN SUSTER: I'd like to make a motion that we accept the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Garfield Heights City Council dated May 13, 2019.

PRESIDENT BURKE: On the motion made by Clmn Suster to accept the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council for the City of Garfield Heights, for Monday, May 13, 2019, as submitted, all in favor signify by saying Yea. Any opposed?

AYES: Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa, Nenadovich, Glenn
The Meeting Minutes for May 13th have been approved with seven Yes votes.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO COUNCIL: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None.

REPORTS OF THE MAYOR AND DIRECTORS:

PRESIDENT BURKE: We will move on to the Reports of the Mayor and the Directors. Mayor, do you have a report for us this evening?

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a short report. First off, I wanted to talk a little bit about the Memorial Day Parade that took place on Memorial Day. In the last four years, I believe it's been four/five years, we cancelled the parade that we always had on Memorial Day because of the condition of Turney Road. Now that Turney Road is in

great shape, we had a group of people put together a Memorial Day parade and I have to tell you it was one of the best that I ever saw. Everybody involved did a great job. At the memorial itself after the parade and at the memorial we must have had 400-500 people—no exaggeration. Afterwards they came in for hotdogs and refreshments. It was a great day—a great parade and I hope it gets even bigger and better in the future. I want to take a minute to thank everyone involved that took place in it or had anything to do with putting the parade together. Thank you for that.

The next thing I wanted to do is I wanted to read about this year's Summer Concerts. We have four Summer Concerts leading up to our 100th year birthday party:

◇ July 14th from 6:00-8:00 p.m. right here in our dining room at this location we have the Tony Quarles Quartet.

◇ July 21st and July 28th from 6:00-8:00 p.m. right here we have the Larry Patch Quintet.

◇ On August 4th from 6:00-8:00 p.m. we have the Brian Papesh Band.

We have a great time at these concerts. We supply hotdogs, ice cream, potato chips, cookies. It's really impressive. People have a great time. They do a lot of line dancing. They just do a lot of having fun. So I invite anybody who is interested on those dates to come out and have a great time.

Next, I wanted to talk about a program that Judge Nicastro is putting out. It's called the Fresh Start Program. I will read it to you.

"The Garfield Heights Municipal Court is helping people clear their outstanding Court cases and get their driver's licenses reinstated. The Court is initiating the Fresh Start Program. This is for people that have not paid their fines and Court costs. As a result, the Court has suspended their driver's licenses and issued a warrant for their arrest. The Court is willing to give them a fresh start. It starts with the person paying \$200.00 to the Clerk of Court. The person will get a release for the driver's license and a date to come back to set up a payment plan for any balance due. If the offender has multiple cases, a release will be issued on all cases with a payment of \$200.00 being applied to the oldest case first.

The Fresh Start Program does not apply to offenders who fail to appear for a Court date and then were never sentenced. In these cases, the offender must post bond to get a Court date, Judge Nicastro added. As long as the person sticks to the payment plan they will be considered in compliance and their driver's license will remain valid."

This is all done without any additional Court proceedings or having to go before the Judge again. If somebody finds themselves in that position and we know somebody who is in that position, this is an excellent way to get your driver's license reinstated.

OK. Grass cutting. This year my office is taking over the calls for the high grass and the phone has not stopped ringing. I want everybody to think about cutting your own grass. It's been tough this year with the rain. It's been unbelievably tough. I have people telling me boy, my

grass is so high in the back yard but I can't get to it. We have about 800/900 of those grasses to cut and we have the exact same problem. We have three crews out there. They came in last Saturday. We brought them in on overtime Saturday to work. They're going to work an extra hour each day this week, but we are behind. There's no question about it. The rain has been unbelievable. We're lucky to get a day or two of cutting in each week. It's been that bad. So if you have a problem house with high grass please call my office. We will definitely get it on the list. If it's not posted we will post it and we will get to it as soon as we can, but as you can understand, three crews, six guys out there and they're trying to keep up with 800 grass. It's not easy. It's tough. It would be so much nicer if people would just cut their own grass. It would really be nice, but unfortunately they have other things to do I guess. So we have to cut it.

The last thing I wanted to talk about today. There's been a lot of talk recently about and of course with the rain, about flooding. A long time ago, back in the '50s and '60s Garfield Heights and I'm just throwing a percentage out, don't hold me to this, Garfield Heights and I know because I was here and we had our basement flooded many times, probably 50%-60% of the houses in Garfield Heights were getting water in their basement. It was just atrocious because the sewers were not big enough to handle the water when it came down in those heavy storms. So what they did many years ago and I don't know exactly when. Dave might know this. In the '80s or '90s. They put in hydro brakes. They put in hydro brakes in hundreds of the sewers of the catch basins in Garfield Heights.

What those hydro brakes do is when that water starts filling in the sewer to a point where there's no more room for the sewer to take the water, the hydro brake cuts off the sewer. It stops it. Instead of the water coming into the sewer, it comes into the street. The reason for this is because if you don't have hydro brakes to go into the street it then goes into your basement. So we put the hydro brakes in. We didn't, but the city put them in many years ago. They have been totally successful. We have probably had maybe 5%-10% of houses being flooded now compared to what we had in the past. That don't make it any easier for people that have their houses flooded today, but understand that if you live on a street and that water is high in the street after a storm we could easily correct that. We could get all the water off the street if you like. We'll take out hydro brakes out, but that water's got to go somewhere. It's going to go in your basement. So that's what the deal of hydro brakes is. So many people don't understand that and it's not an easy thing to understand, but those hydro brakes are highly successful for the city of Garfield Heights and they always have been. I just wanted to do that explanation again because of the storms we've had this year. We've certainly had our share of flooding.

Now, Mr. Dudley, Broadway where it floods, where we always have to put a boat out to save the people, that's not hydro brakes. I just wanted you to know that. That's just the way the contour of the land is, the water coming back from Cleveland. That is a serious problem and one that our engineers have been looking at for a couple of years now trying to figure out a way to go. I just wanted to run that by you because that certainly was not hydro brakes. That's just bad terrains, so to speak.

OK. With that said, I want to get into tonight's legislation. Ordinance 29 and 30 is the joint road project for Canal Road between Valley View and Cuyahoga Heights and Garfield Heights and Mr. Krock can get into that in his report. Ordinance 31. We are renewing our rubbish agreement

with Kimble for a one-year agreement. Ordinance 32-2019. An ordinance to apply for a grant for bulletproof vests for our police officers. Ordinance 33. Let me explain this. Administrative employees would be awarded two additional personal days to be used within the 2019 calendar year. Let me explain why we did that. All the non-Union employees and some Union employees once again this year did not receive any raise or increase for the year. In the last eight/nine years, it's probably been three or four times that there's been no raise at all because of the lack of funds. So instead of just cutting them off with no raise again, we are offering them two personal days to take. It's a small token of our appreciation, but it is a token. These people do a great job. It's tough when you tell them they won't get an increase. We feel that this is a token that the city can offer. It doesn't cost us any money out of the kitty. It just shortens the work force for a couple of days but we've been through it before and we can do it. 34-2019 we are entering into a new agreement with our cleaning company. They have changed some of the cleaning for the Court and the city so we've adjusted for that. Ordinance 35 allows our auditors to perform an additional audit. Barb can get in that legislation on her report.

Resolution 12 is a resolution ratifying the appointment of Pamela Wilkes as a member of the Tax Incentive Review Group to fill the unexpired term of David Mays. Dave Mays, who did a great job for us and we all know him from being at the Council Meetings and all of the events in Garfield Heights, has moved to Columbus. We needed to fill his spot. Pam Wilkes is a very highly regarded real estate person in Garfield Heights. She's very aware of tax problems and tax solutions. We feel that she would do a great job so Pam Wilkes is the member that we would like to fill in the unexpired term. With that Mr. Chairman, you have my report.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Mayor. Does anyone have any questions for Mayor Collova on his report? Yes, Mr. Dudley.

CLMN DUDLEY: I remember on Broadway when you would need a boat to go up and down Broadway. That was true. I do understand how hydro brakes work, etc., in detail. I believe Dave is going to address it as well, but the problem we have like on MLK even with the hydro brakes it's just far too many homes are still being flooded and some time what's happening to people you can see them walk by weekly with the rain that they are literally bringing stuff up the basement to put out on the curb. You can only file so many claims and then your insurance company cut you and you got to start absorbing that pain. We know that this flood is continuing to be the way it is we probably got to look for another answer on top of the hydro brakes because even though they withholding the water they not withholding the water enough. Too many homes that is flooding on that street. I have no issue with the water when it does its job and the water's out in front of the house. I can live with that and it open up and release it but the amount of homes that some are repeated flooding that's my concern what we be able to do. I think Dave is probably going to speak on that one. We got to come up with another solution. Not to take out the hydro brakes you got to have those. We got to come up with something around there because when you ready to sell your home you got to tell somebody that your home is flooding. When you say that word, the value of your home is gone. These are good people that live throughout the city. I know we had issues also on 102nd as well. I think we got to address that sooner than later what's happening on MLK because like I told Dave I'll send you the pictures I had taken to send you this week. That's my part. I been sending pictures to you. When I drive through it sometime, it be almost higher than the center of my GMC Target. We can live with it, but the homes that are suffering the flood that's my biggest concern. The mildew starts building up in there.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: It's nasty. I agree. It's terrible. I went through it for many years in Garfield Heights as a young person. Dave, if you would check into that and see if there's something that can be done with that, I'd appreciate it.

CLMN DUDLEY: Appreciate it. Thank you, Chairman.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you. Does anyone else have any questions for the Mayor on his report this evening? If there are none, we will move to our Law Director, Mr. Tim Riley. Tim, do you have a report for us this evening?

LAW DIRECTOR TIM RILEY: No report this evening.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Tim. Let's move on to our Fire Chief, Fire Chief Strope. Do you have a report for us this evening?

FIRE CHIEF KENNETH STROPE: No report this evening. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you. Police Chief Byrne. Chief Byrne, do you have a report for us?

POLICE CHIEF ROBERT BYRNE: I do. I wanted to take a quick opportunity to commend one of our Auxiliary Officers who retired after 44 years of service with the Auxiliaries. That's Fred Sisler. He started in 1975, been wrapping things up in May. I went through his file and found numerous commendations for all his volunteer work and things that he did on his own time to assist the Police Department and assist the city. So congratulations to Fred and thank you very much.

I also wanted to mention if anybody is interested in an Auxiliary Police position, we have applications on-line on the city Website. You can fill that out and forward it to the Police Department Records Bureau. Our police liaison officer will get that. We're looking to fill some positions. If you have any particular questions about that you can either e-mail me or Sgt. Todd Cramer in the Detective Bureau.

Other than that, I would like to ask for City Council's support of Ordinance 32. With that, you have my report.

SERVICE DIRECTOR TIMOTHY MCLAUGHLIN: Absent.

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR BOB DOBIES: Absent.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Chief. Does anybody have any questions for Chief Byrne on his report this evening? There are none, we will move over to our Finance Director, Barb Biro. Barb, do you have a report for us this evening?

FINANCE DIRECTOR BARB BIRO: I do. Thank you, Mr. President. This evening I am asking for Council's support on Ordinance 31-2019. It is a renewal of our refuse contract with Kimble. It is the second year of the three one-year renewal so we are going to be renewing it with up to

a 2.5% increase in refuse collection based on the Consumer Price Index. Within another week or so, I will have the final numbers on that.

In addition, we are asking for support on Ordinance 34-2019, which is for our cleaning service for the Police Department and the Civic Center. That contract has come up. We are asking for it to be renewed and up for another year.

Lastly, I am requesting support on Ordinance 35-2019. This is a modification to our 2018 Audit Report due to we have to go to a single audit in the year 2018 due to the Federal money spent on Transportation Boulevard and the Granger Rock Scale Program. It has gone over the limit of \$750,000.00 so they have to add on another 40 some hours of work to do the single audit. With that, you have my report, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Ms. Biro. Does anybody have any questions for Barb on her report this evening? There are none, we will move on to our City Engineer, Mr. David Krock. Dave, do you have a report?

CITY ENGINEER DAVID KROCK: I do, Mr. Chairman. Thank you. First off, I want to start with the Ordinances. Ordinance 29 and Ordinance 30 both have to do with Canal Road. Ordinance 29 is the part where we're working collaboratively with Valley View and Cuyahoga Heights to do a larger section of Canal Road at hopefully a better price. Our maximum out of pocket for construction will be \$211,000.00. We actually hope that that will be a little less with some of the efficiency for doing the work. Ordinance 30 is authorizing us to do the construction inspection work across that same area of Canal Road.

Switching over to East 102nd Street, as the Mayor mentioned, I got an e-mail last week of a picture of East 102nd Street and there's water in the street—brand new street and water flooding the street. Of course, the question is what happened? We just fixed this. The reality is we did and it's good and it's working. Those hydro brakes are actually helping protect those basements. There's other thing we're still doing on 102nd Street working with some of the residents because the residents do have an obligation now to do their part to help protect themselves. But you know, that process probably took three/four years to get to that point where we are now so it's a long process.

So as we talk about the MLK area, I guess to start with, it would probably make sense if people have not called into the Service Department before and let them know of these flooding issues that would be a good place to start. We could get those on record so we know the extent of the flooding. That helps us analyze the situation and try to determine if we just have downstream problems or if we have problems in the immediate area or just what the issue is. But we will do an analysis of that and understand what's going on, at which point we'll have a better understanding of the full situation. Then we'll start looking for funding and ways to get that work done just as we did on 102nd Street. We did check and MLK does have those hydro brakes and although maybe it's not 100% effective, it is certainly helping some. Maybe it's not quite as deep in the basements, but I would ask everyone to at least reach out to the Service Department and pass along their address. So that's my report, Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Mr. Krock. Does anybody have any questions for Mr. Krock? Yes, Mr. Nenadovich.

CLMN NENADOVICH: Dave, on that Canal Road stretch, that one part in front of the towpath they had a large break in the main there. Will they be doing water lines or checking the main further down on either end so we don't have that problem again? Because they shut it down for over a week.

CITY ENGINEER DAVID KROCK: Yeah, we checked with Cleveland Water on that, Mike, for that exact reason, what was the condition of the rest of the water main. They own the water main and they felt like it was still in good shape everywhere else so that was a spot repair they had to make. It was a major beak of course. So we really kind of have to take their word for it unless we want to come out of pocket ourselves, so we're going to do that and if there is an issue later then we'll have to foot the bill to fix the road.

CLMN NENADOVICH: Thank you, Dave. Nothing else.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Does anybody else have any questions for Mr. Krock? I could just remind everybody to please speak into the microphones when you are addressing the people? We will move on to our Social Services Director, Mrs. Kathy Rush-Parsson. Kathy, do you have a report this evening?

SOCIAL SERVICES DIRECTOR KATHY RUSH-PARSSON: Yes, I do. Thank you. Our Annual Senior Summer Picnic will be held on Thursday July 11th from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at Klima Gardens on East 71st Street in Cuyahoga Heights. Tickets re \$4.00 and include lunch, games, raffles and music. For more information, or to purchase a ticket, please call Annie at the Senior Center at (216) 475-3244.

Also, I received a flyer from Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court about a Pro-Bono Collaborative Program with Judge Joan Synenberg. They will be hosting several civil legal assistant sessions for those who need help with civil matters, such as bankruptcy, divorce, child support and visitation rights, driver's license suspensions, debt collections, disability benefits and foreclosures. The first session will be on Friday June 21st at 9 o'clock in the morning at the Justice Center downtown. You do need to register. You can call Mark Shannon, the Pro-bono coordinator at (216) 348-4027. I did put some flyers on the table down here and there are also some in the lobby near the elevator upstairs. They have all the information with additional dates for the sessions, that go through December of this year.

Also, last Friday the city hosted its Annual Senior Volunteer Recognition Luncheon for our volunteers who donated their time to various programs within the Social Services Department in 2018. We had over 30 volunteers in attendance who were treated to lunch from Mission Barbecue, entertainment, gifts and awards thanks to the generosity of our Senior Site Council who sponsors the event each year and our Activities Coordinator, Annie, who put it all together. Collectively our volunteers donated over 10,300 hours of service last year by helping to deliver meals to our homebound Seniors in the community, leading activities and exercise groups, working in the kitchen, serving lunch, handling our meal reservations, working in the Craft Room and assisting with our monthly Food Pantry and our Senior Produce Programs. We could not really run all these programs without our wonderful volunteers so we had a very nice luncheon. The Mayor attended and I just wanted to acknowledge and make Council aware of all the hours that these Seniors do donate, which is a big help.

Finally, Ruth Pollack, who is the Manager of the Family Resource Center, will be retiring at the end of June. Ruth started this program with only a vision and from there she established a really great Resource Center. She implemented several successful programs, such as the Annual Walk for Recovery and the Children's Gun Safety Program, which she put on with the Police Department at the grade schools. Ruth did a great job and she will be sorely missed by the staff as well as the residents. For anybody who has questions or requests for assistance after July 1st, they can certainly call me. I am a Licensed Social Worker at the Senior Center and I will certainly do my best to fill in for Ruth and take over after she leaves. The phone number for my office again is (216) 475-3244. That's all I have.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Ms. Parsson. Does anybody have any questions for Mrs. Parsson? Yes, Mr. Suster.

CLMN SUSTER: Either the Mayor or Tim. Are you planning a resolution for Ruth on her retirement?

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: If Council would like to request one, we would certainly be glad to do it.

CLMN SUSTER: OK. I will request that we do a resolution for Ruth on her retirement.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Call the Law Department.

CLMN SUSTER: Tim knows I'm good at that. That's all I have.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Mr. Suster. Does anybody else have any questions? OK, we will move on to our Economic Development Director, Noreen Kuban. Noreen, do you have a report for us this evening?

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR NOREEN KUBAN: Yes, thank you, Mr. President. Briefly, I'd like to urge Council to pass Resolution 12-2019. We need to fill a position on our Tax Incentive Review Council, which annually reviews all tax abatement agreements in place. Since Pam Wilkes is a realtor, we thought she would be an excellent choice. That concludes my report.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you. Are there questions for Noreen on her report this evening? If there are none, we will move on to our Building Commissioner, Mark Moro. Mark, do you have a report this evening?

BUILDING COMMISSIONER MARK MORO: No report this evening.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you. That concludes the reports of the Mayor and the Directors. We will move on now to communications from citizens on tonight's agenda. Will the Clerk please read the rules?

COMMENTS BY CITIZENS ON THE AGENDA:

CLERK: Comments shall be strictly limited to brief statements not to exceed five minutes with comments limited to legislation on the current evening's agenda. No citizen shall speak more than once.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Are there any citizens out there wishing to speak specifically on tonight's agenda?

Barbara Krawczyk, 5271 East 102nd Street. Council, I would like to address an issue to everyone here. I have an original article that states--being a resident myself for the last 46 years in Garfield Heights--I have the original copy of The Leader from the Longo Administration that has Mr. Longo stating that the hydro brakes that were purchased by the city of Garfield Heights do not operate at all.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Mrs. Krawczyk, we will have that discussion after our legislation. Now is not the time to come up and speak about that. I will call you up as soon as we're done with legislation.

MS. KRAWCZYK: I'm sorry.

PRESIDENT BURKE: That's OK. Thank you. Is there anyone else wishing to speak specifically on tonight's legislation? If there are none, we will move on to Ordinances and Resolutions beginning with Ordinance 29-2019. Will the Clerk please read the title?

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

ORDINANCE NO. 29-2019

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED FOR A JOINT PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AIMED AT MAKING CERTAIN REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO CANAL ROAD; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Moved by NENADOVICH to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa

Motion to WAIVE RULE 24:

AYES: Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa

PRESIDENT BURKE: On its adoption, beginning with Clmn Nenadovich.

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

AYES: Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa

PRESIDENT BURKE: Ordinance 29-2019 passes with 7 Yes votes.

CLMN SUSTER: Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Mr. Suster.

CLMN SUSTER: Point of Order, please. If anybody has any cell phones on, to turn them off please so as not to disrupt the meeting.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Mr. Suster, for that public service announcement.

ORDINANCE NO. 30-2019

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH DAVID KROCK, CITY ENGINEER AND OHM ADVISORS PROPOSAL WITH RESPECT TO THE CONSTRUCTION SERVICES ON THE CANAL ROAD RESURFACING PROJECT FROM E. 71ST TO GRANGER ROAD ATTACHED HERETO AND IDENTIFIED AS EXHIBIT A.

Moved by NENADOVICH to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa

Motion to WAIVE RULE 24:

AYES: Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa

PRESIDENT BURKE: On its adoption, beginning with Clmn Nenadovich.

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

AYES: Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa

PRESIDENT BURKE: Ordinance 30-2019 passes with 7 Yes votes.

ORDINANCE NO. 31-2019

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND/OR HIS DESIGNEE TO RENEW AN AGREEMENT WITH KIMBLE RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL, INC. FOR CITYWIDE REFUSE /RECYCLING COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Moved by SUSTER to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa, Nenadovich, Glenn

Motion to WAIVE RULE 24:

AYES: Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa, Nenadovich, Glenn

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa, Nenadovich, Glenn

PRESIDENT BURKE: On its adoption, beginning with Clmn Suster.

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

AYES: Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa, Nenadovich, Glenn

PRESIDENT BURKE: Ordinance 31-2019 passes with 7 Yes votes.

ORDINANCE NO. 32-2019

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR A GRANT AVAILABLE BY THE BULLETPROOF VEST PARTNERSHIP GRANT ACT OF 1998 FOR THE GARFIELD HEIGHTS POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Moved by VAUGHN to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa, Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke

Motion to WAIVE RULE 24:

AYES: Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa, Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa, Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke

PRESIDENT BURKE: On its adoption, beginning with Clmn Vaughn.

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

AYES: Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa, Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke

PRESIDENT BURKE: Ordinance 32-2019 passes with 7 Yes votes.

ORDINANCE NO. 33-2019

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE GRANTING ALL FULL-TIME AND PERMANENT PART-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE EMPLOYEES TWO (2) ADDITIONAL PERSONAL DAYS TO BE USED WITHIN THE 2019 CALENDER YEAR.

Moved by NENADOVICH to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa

PRESIDENT BURKE: On its adoption, beginning with Clmn Nenadovich.

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

AYES: Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa

CLMN DUDLEY: Before I vote, remember that as the Mayor had stated, this is not two free days that we're giving to the workers. These days are being awarded to them in lieu of the fact that they did not receive any pay raises from us this year. So that is why they receiving today. It's not like giving them something extra. I want everybody to know that. We don't have money just to give away. With that, I vote yes.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Ordinance 33-2019 passes with 7 Yes votes.

ORDINANCE NO. 34-2019

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR, OR HIS DESIGNEE, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH SYSTEM 4 FOR THE REGULAR CLEANING OF THE GARFIELD HEIGHTS POLICE DEPARTMENT / CIVIC CENTER.

Moved by SUSTER to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa, Nenadovich, Glenn

Motion to WAIVE RULE 24:

AYES: Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa, Nenadovich, Glenn

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa, Nenadovich, Glenn

PRESIDENT BURKE: On its adoption, beginning with Clmn Suster.

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

AYES: Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa, Nenadovich, Glenn

PRESIDENT BURKE: Ordinance 34-2019 passes with 7 Yes votes.

ORDINANCE NO. 35-2019

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO MODIFY THE AGREEMENT ENTERED INTO WITH CIUNI & PANICHI, INC. IN ORDINANCES 59-2015 AND 16-2019.

Moved by NENADOVICH to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa

Motion to WAIVE RULE 24:

AYES: Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa

PRESIDENT BURKE: On its adoption, beginning with Clmn Nenadovich.

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

AYES: Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa

PRESIDENT BURKE: Ordinance 35-2019 passes with 7 Yes votes.

RESOLUTION NO. 12-2019

AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION RATIFYING AN APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF PAMELA WILKES AS A MEMBER OF THE TAX INCENTIVE REVIEW COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS, OHIO TO FILL THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF DAVID MAYS COMMENCING IMMEDIATELY.

Moved by SUSTER to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa, Nenadovich, Glenn

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa, Nenadovich, Glenn

PRESIDENT BURKE: On its adoption, beginning with Clmn Suster.

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

AYES: Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa, Nenadovich, Glenn

PRESIDENT BURKE: Resolution 12-2019 passes with 7 Yes votes. That concludes our Ordinances and Resolutions for this evening.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS BY CITIZENS

PRESIDENT BURKE: At this time, we will move on to Miscellaneous Comments by Citizens. Will the Clerk please read the rules.

CLERK: Comments shall be restricted to any problem a citizen has which has previously been submitted to his/her Councilperson or to the city hall department directly involved. If submission of a problem to a city hall department or a Councilperson is made and there is a lack of service rendered in this regard, the problem may then be presented during Comments

from Citizens at a future meeting. It is the intention of this rule that no request of a first nature is presented on the floor at this time. Comments shall be limited to five minutes. No citizen shall be heard more than once.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Mrs. Krawczyk, you are more than welcome to come up now.

Barbara Krawczyk, 5271 East 102nd Street. Clerk of Council, may I ask a question? May three of the citizens relinquish their minutes to me so that I can advocate for them while I am speaking to Council?

PRESIDENT BURKE: I would like to make a motion to allow the residents to forego their time and give it to Mrs. Krawczyk. All in favor signify by saying Yea. Excuse me. Mr. Dudley.

CLMN DUDLEY: Who are the three residents?

MS. KRAWCZYK: The three residents are in the back three rows.

CLMN DUDLEY: I didn't mean to interrupt you, Mr. Chairman.

MS. KRAWCZYK: Here they are. They are residents of East 102nd Street also.

CLMN DUDLEY: My apology. Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Let's take that vote again. All in favor signify by saying Yea. Any opposed? OK.

AYES: Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa, Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster

MS. KRAWCZYK: Sir, I just would like to reiterate what I stated in the beginning in regards to the original copy of The Leader from the Longo Administration that states that the hydro brakes do not operate correctly in the city of Garfield Heights. I leave it at that because I want to move on to the issue that I have on hand for the East 102nd Street residents.

It's regarding the Midwest Neighborhood Storm and Sanitary Sewer Project of which we are Phase 1. In all due respect, let me just make a comment about a gentleman that I had been speaking with in regards to when our properties had to be remarked to find the locations of the problem that we're having. I spoke with him. I had gone out to the front of the yard and I was speaking with him so that he would mark the cracked areas. In our conversation, he referred to our street as the "guinea pig street". I didn't take offense at that time, but then after some thought it started to bother me. So in regards to his statement, I just want to ask a question of Mr. Krock and the Mayor. At the March 11th meeting there was a problem that I had brought up in regards to East 102nd Street. I had stated that there are no monies from our residents on this street that could take care of the repairs that were suggested was in in the frame of time that was stated in the letter that which would have been at that time, was May 1st. Since the deadline was May 1st I asked the Mayor do we have to meet this deadline because we are in no shape to do this. At the time, the Mayor had stated that if the residents didn't blame the city for getting water in their basements and at the time, the residents would decide to sell their home they could negotiate their repairs with the next buyer. So we left it at that. That's fair. You know. We'll work with that.

Then on June 3rd of this month we received a letter from the city again and this is in regards to another deadline- a 60 day deadline by which we have to have the repairs on our properties done at this time. Once again, I am being the advocate as well as for myself and for the residents. We can negotiate this once we decide to sell our homes, but as of this time with the timeframe, if you try to go to the County (which I have already done) and ask for a grant or a loan, they want to know the cost of your home. What is the approximate assessment of your home? When you tell them at this time maybe \$40,000.00, maybe \$54,000.00, they don't want to talk to you no more. You're not in that economic situation in order to request a loan or a grant from them. So now what? Do we have to go to a bank or another financial institution in order to get the thousands of dollars to repair this?

Sir, I have one question for Mr. Krock. Mr. Krock, when the County was out on the street and the properties were wide open a supervisor as well as two contractors had asked me, lady, why didn't you ask them to do this or help you with this work while your properties were open? I didn't have an answer for them. So when I addressed that question I think I addressed it to you at one time or another and I asked you, you said that it would be a conflict of interest to have more than one contractor on duty at that time because the County was the ones that were taking care of it. So, Sir, we're in a situation right now. Number one. We still can't afford this. Number two. Can I ask just one more question? Why do we have to pay the cost? Why do we have to pick up the cost the 102nd Street residents for the second dye test? The city did the dye test once. They found out there was a problem. So why are we redoing this?

CITY ENGINEER DAVID KROCK: Let me address the first thing first. There is not a conflict of interest for two contractors to be on a site. We just felt like on a street the size of 102nd Street with our primary contractor fixing the street, sewers and things it was best for them to get finished and get out of the way before we had multiple plumbers trying to work on the same street. It was really just a safety and coordination item we felt was best. It was our judgment at the time.

MS. KRAWCZYK: Sir, there was only 23 homes affected out of the whole street.

CITY ENGINEER DAVID KROCK: That was our judgment at the time.

MS. KRAWCZYK: Now your judgment is for us to pick up the cost, correct, Sir?

CITY ENGINEER DAVID KROCK: I think that was always the plan from the beginning. When the city set out to fix this problem it was known and it was discussed at multiple public meetings that if the city moves forward with this project and the city found and funded approximately \$1 million on East 102nd Street. I recall in many of those meetings the discussion being centered on the idea that some of these problems that we have on the street are going to have to be fixed on the private side. There was a discussion about what those costs might be as well as responsibility and understanding that the city as a public agency cannot work on the private side property. It just can't pay for that. It was understood by those residents who were at those meetings that anything to fix the flooding in the basements we understand there will be some cost to us. That was the general consensus we heard back.

As you and I have talked a number of times on the phone over the past couple years, I understand where everybody is. I understand the cost associated with that, which is one of the reasons we provided several different funding options, one of which I know you're eligible for

with the County. That you can do the work and not cost you anything until you sell your house. That is one of the things we talked about the other day. I would suggest that those documents were provided. People go back. Take a look at those. See if they fit in to those. The County was very good with us, was at some of the public meetings, so it was more than willing to help. But at this point, the only repairs that can be made can be repaired on the private side. It's really the responsibility of the property owners.

MS. KRAWCZYK: Can I just be an intercessor for myself as well as for the residents on the street? Sixty days isn't going to work, Sir. We cannot apply for a loan. We cannot have the work accomplished. We cannot have it approved by the city in that time. Furthermore, I was told by two of the contractors that recently didn't work just this past month on the street why do you need an inspector when you are just doing the test? I said that's one of our stipulations that we received with the letter. He says when you're doing the test it's not repairs. We're going to document all our results on paper and we're going to be held responsible. Do you think we're going to be held responsible financially if we put something wrong down here and it's handed to your Building Department? No. So why are you asking us to have an inspector here? I says it's not me, Sir. It's the city.

CITY ENGINEER DAVID KROCK: Well a couple things. One, as you recall, the original schedule was May 1st to have this completed. That was provided to the homeowners probably last fall at some point so the 60 days was an extension over and above the original deadline. Our purpose for getting the Building Department involved is that this is the kind of thing they do every day. This is what they're used to doing and they're the ones that can sign off on things. It's a standard protocol for the city so we felt like that was the appropriate mechanism to handle it.

MS. KRAWCZYK: Why do we have to have somebody come on to our property? Are we against the law? Are we violating some ordinance from the city by not allowing any more people on our property than has already been there? The County, the city, the inspectors, the contractors. Are we violating some type of ordinance?

BUILDING COMMISSIONER MARK MORO: So currently the property is in violation because of the cross connection. So now, you're going to alleviate that violation. We need to witness that it has actually been corrected. There's perfectly good reasons for us to witness that test.

MS. KRAWCZYK: But isn't the documentation from the contractor enough for you, Sir?

BUILDING COMMISSIONER MARK MORO: We need to make an inspection. That's part of the process.

MS. KRAWCZYK: An inspection of the test, correct?

BUILDING COMMISSIONER MARK MORO: An inspection of the correction.

MS. KRAWCZYK: The dye test would prove whether or not there is a connection and it's a dye test that proves the cross connection.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Excuse me. Will you please silence your cell phones? Thank you.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Mr. Chairman, if I may?

PRESIDENT BURKE: Absolutely, Mayor.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Barb, the inspector coming on your property to oversee the dye test does not cost you a penny. He's not there to violate you in any way. Why don't you just say let him be there?

MS. KRAWCZYK: The dye test is costing us money. What choices are we being given right now from the city that says that you are going to repair whatever the dye test proves? What choices are we given?

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: I understand that's one thing. What I'm trying to figure out is why you don't want the inspector there. What would be the reason?

MS. KRAWCZYK: The reason is maybe just out of satisfaction to be honest. Let us have some type of say in this. This is our property. You're telling us we have to have a dye test done. You're telling us we have cross connections. OK. So let us do it our way.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Let me explain to you the reasons. One of the reasons is there was two separate tests made. Both tests showed some of those houses were in violation. Then the owner of the house get their own plumber or whoever and told us there is nothing wrong. So we have two people saying there is and one saying there isn't. So then, we said well let's bring them back out and we'll take a look at it with them. Maybe he's right. We will know that. But you're saying that he shouldn't be there. We should just take his word for it even though the County and the other company twice checked it out and found out something was wrong. Twice.

MS. KRAWCZYK: Once. Because the County came out and did the thumbs up for the people that got the letters. They gave us the thumbs up so that was once.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: I don't disrespect that. Actually, think about what you're saying. We don't want the inspector there. Take our contractor (we don't even know) his word for it. That's what you're saying. Do you think the city should run that way?

MS. KRAWCZYK: We got the contractors from your list.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: That's not necessarily true. The e-mail that I got--the contractor that was on there was not a part of our list.

MS. KRAWCZYK: I have the list.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: I know. And a statement from Longo saying hydro brakes don't work too. I'm confused.

MS. KRAWCZYK: I could bring you the proof of both things, Sir.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Well if Tom Longo can show me that he knows more than the engineers do about hydro brakes, I'll be glad to listen to him and pull them out all over the city. I'm sure the residents don't want that to happen. You have to be a little bit reasonable about this. You talk about them time limits, Barb. I'm not trying to be adversarial, believe me I'm not but it's very frustrating because we talk about a 60-day time limit. You probably had three months before that, but you don't talk about that time limit. You only talk about the last. At some point, we have to make a deadline. What if I say the 60 is 120? Would that be enough time? At some point in time, you got to say we have to do it.

MS. KRAWCZYK: But Sir, you were the one on March 11th meeting that said that.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Can you get a letter from the person buying your house and have it fixed within 30 days.

MS. KRAWCZYK: That would be up to them, Sir.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: That's not up to them.

MS. KRAWCZYK: There would be a negotiation that you would have to determine between you and the buyer.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: No, no, no. We're not negotiating anything. You're selling a house that has to be fixed so you have to negotiate how it's done. We're not going to do that.

MS. KRAWCZYK: So why don't we just wait till we sell the house then?

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: What if you don't sell the house for five years? What about the people that will continue to get flooded because those drains were not fixed?

MS. KRAWCZYK: Sir, I'll be honest with you. I did an investigation on my own part this past week. We got the downfall. I went from house to house asking who got water and who didn't because of the flooding in the street. The people that got two letters from the city didn't get any water. Praise God. The people that didn't get the letters got the water. So.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: So as long as you didn't get the water, it's OK?

MS. KRAWCZYK: I have no further comment. I just wanted to make sure that I made my concerns aware to the Council. If we can get an extension because most of us have to go in with the County in regards to getting monies to have these things resolved. So in that case I don't know if it will be resolved in 60 days so that means we'll be going to Court.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: That may be.

LAW DIRECTOR TIM RILEY: Let me just say. I don't want us to be hard on Building yet, but I will discuss with them the possibility and with Engineering of additional time. Like the Mayor said, there's got to be a point where you say OK the time has run out. What I would suggest is one of the things that is helpful if we go to Court or not or what ends up happening is show us some progress. Show us paperwork that you are going with the County. Show us a contract you

took out. Show us a contract that's going to start on a date certain and you made a down payment on it. Those make a big difference. To sit back and say we just need an extension and when the time runs they ask for another extension, but we can't. You cannot run a city that way.

MS. KRAWCZYK: I understand. Thank you.

CLMN DUDLEY: Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Yes, Mr. Dudley.

CLMN DUDLEY: I understand the County program with the Seniors don't pay anything back. I did it for a lot of Ward 1 residents until the property is sold. But I remember how you switch it over to a non-profit organization. Is there any update on that? Can Noreen answer that question?

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR NOREEN KUBAN: Yes, Clmn Dudley is referring to the Home Improvement Programs that are available through the County. They're in the process of transferring administration of their funds in the program to another agency. Not related to County government. We don't know right now where that is or how long that will take. I do want to point out however, there is another program called The Help Loan. I personally have used it. Two banks are involved: Huntington Bank and Key Bank. You shop out your best rate. They reduce the interest rate by 3% and that's how they establish your payments. So if it's less than a \$12,000.00 loan it's a five-year repayment. More than \$12,000.00 it's a 10-year repayment. Like I said I've used it myself. It's a one-page application. I got a turnaround in 24 hours

CLMN DUDLEY: One more question. Like some of the Seniors on a fixed income, they wouldn't be able to make those payments to pay them back.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR NOREEN KUBAN: Correct. I would refer them to the County program because the County program the interest rate is based on income and family size, it's staggered. The lower the income, the higher the family size, the lower rate. For a Senior citizen who is eligible based on income it's a zero percent loan undeferred so they don't make payments until the time that the house is sold. Of course you have to have equity in your house because there will be a lien on the house. Sometimes the rate through The Help Loan is better than the County rate. Just depends on shopping out your rates and doing your homework. Like I say when I did mine, I think I got .9 percentage and interest rates were like 4.9%.

CLMN DUDLEY: The County Senior program is a great program because I got the information years ago through Noreen and numerous Ward 1 residents use it. My concern is that I don't believe they currently accept any application while they making this process so when the lady had mentioned the fact that she couldn't do nothing in 60 days we discovering that the County is not taking applications now. Mayor, would that qualify them to get additional time if they can't utilize the County because they waiting for the switchover to the non-profit organization to take over?

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: We're looking at all aspects, Mike. My understanding was at one of them meetings we even had the County there. The County said that they would provide loans. I don't know how the procedure is and I don't know if that changed, but they were actually at the meeting with 102nd Street people explaining to them about going to them for a loan. I have not heard anything more since then, but we would be glad to research it.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR NOREEN KUBAN: Mr. President, may I make a comment?

PRESIDENT BURKE: Sure.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR NOREEN KUBAN: We will look into this tomorrow morning and get back with everyone and share with the Building Department, all Council. We will post something on our Website. If we need to we can mail something out to residents, but the program still exists. It's just a question of are they trying to transfer it to another entity in the administration.

CLMN DUDLEY: Can you find out there's a separate application.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR NOREEN KUBAN: Yeah, I'll find out everything.

CLMN DUDLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mayor.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Is there anyone else wishing to speak tonight?

Mr. Adam Miller, 5280 East 102nd Street. I wasn't planning to speak, but after the conversation that the Mayor had with Ms. Krawczyk I felt the need to clarify some of our concerns of residents. Obviously, there's several residents that have been on this street for 30/40 years almost their entire lives and they experienced a lot of flooding issues and costs that they've incurred at their own expense over the years including Ms. Krawczyk. When this project came on-line in 2013. The construction was finished last summer in 2018. There's been a lot of steps that have taken place and have not been communicated to the residents properly or clearly. I think what she's trying to say is based on the fact that we got the second letter a couple Mondays ago and it's saying that we have 60 days before violation. Yeah it was a slap in the face because most of us were still trying to gather information required to see if we needed to make these repairs or not. Myself and my wife went through the process of getting the testing as a part of the checklist provided with that letter. I believe, Mayor, you actually spoke to my e-mail. Aside to that, the contractor that we did hire specifically off the list from the city so I'm not sure why the Mayor would say that he was not. I never met the guy before in my life until this project. That's how we got his number.

Ultimately, like Ms. Krawczyk said, these expenses are costly--\$10,000.00 - \$20,000.00 is a lot of money. What's happening is the cross connections on some individuals have gotten repairs there might be some cracks in the pipes that might be creating these dye test results. What's happening is these contractors are going in there, these pipes are old—50 years old. They're going to find problems. They're going to find more problems. That cost keeps going up. I guess what we're concerned about is are we paying for a repair that's necessary? Or are we paying for a repair that's on everybody's home? If you dig up anybody's driveway in any yard, I'm sure

there's cracks in your pipes. I'm sure a dye test on your house might show results. That might not be an issue with this project. I wanted to support Ms. Krawczyk and our street and make those statements.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: May I respond if I may?

PRESIDENT BURKE: Go ahead, Mayor.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: When I received your e-mail, of course I didn't know who you were so I didn't know it was you. I got that e-mail, I brought it into the Building Department and to the engineers and I said here's the name of this company. Is it on our list? They told me no. Maybe they made a mistake. Maybe there was confusion, but when I responded that because I researched it and I found out that they were not on the list. If there was a mistake made, I apologize for that.

Let me take it a step further. About three/four years ago, we had a good group of 102nd Street people right here saying that we never do anything for them. This city has never done anything for them. We been getting flooded. All we get is lip service. Nobody does anything. We went out. We got \$1 million to do that work on 102nd Street and I guarantee you Martin Luther King people would love to have that million dollars on Martin Luther King to fix those sewers.

In the beginning, two years ago, when we had the meetings it was said at that time that they would have to pay for their part of it. That's the truth because we had people saying we're going to file a lawsuit because your inspector should have seen it. So I know and you guys know for sure that that was said two years ago. They were told they had to do that. So I don't want to see somebody spend \$100.00, but the reality of this is to say that nobody knows anything or there wasn't enough time is not altogether true. Now when it came up and we were getting people saying we're not paying for it. We're not going to do it. When only three/four people went out to get contractors, we have to sit down and make a decision. Do we just let it go and then explain to the County after we told them that the people would fix that issue? That's the reason we got Phase 1 done and are looking for Phase 2 and Phase 3. Do we just tell the County don't worry about it? We have a responsibility too. Now there's a chance that if we say they're not going to get those drains changed, that the County says forget the other programs. So you guys are fine. You don't have to pay that money. The other people don't get the million dollars on their street. This is a lot bigger than saying do me a favor. We're looking at a whole program here. I have to tell you that from the beginning, from the first meeting, everybody knew that there would be some responsibility on them. I don't believe anybody knew how much it would cost and I think the cost is crazy, but unfortunately that's what was said for a long time. If we can work something out through a loan or some other way I'm glad to try to work with you, but the reality is that this wasn't a surprise attack. Everybody knew this was coming.

MR. MILLER: I agree there has been several meetings to discuss what was going on on our street. I don't think the residents of MLK would be happy to get a \$20,000.00 bill that they can't afford. I think that million dollars is taxpayer money as well too. I understand you're saying that this is a bigger picture. Issues have been going on for several years. I just wanted to address the Council on behalf of the street. A lot of people have gone and tried to get a contractor. It was suggested in those meetings to conduct testing on their property to see if it was in line

with the city's testing. I know we did not see a cross connection there testing. I don't know if Mr. Krock could address like how much of an issue is the water going into the sanitary line that should not. How much issues does that cause for the residents?

CITY ENGINEER DAVID KROCK: I think the issue of the city is that we have an agreement with Northeast Regional Sewer District so if we won't do that. If the Mayor mentioned when we got this money it came stipulated with the fact that we would resolve these problems. We can't have clean water going into sewer water and vice versa. Those are the requirements if there are cracked pipes. If it is minor there's a relining option that could be used. They don't have to spend the kind of money you're talking or come anywhere near the \$20,000.00 charge. Most of the numbers I'm hearing are much, much far less than \$10,000.00. Still a lot of money but I don't think I've seen anybody quite there.

MR. MILLER: I agree just know from the couple neighbors on our street. It's been five figures plus for those repairs. Again, what I think is what's happening is these contractors are going in kind of with a blank check and they're repairing a multitude of issues that have occurred over time and that price goes up and the residents you're down there anyways. Put gold plated pipes down there. I'm being sarcastic obviously. I wanted to speak on behalf to Council and help out Ms. Krawczyk.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Trust me. Nobody's happy about this. You guys aren't happy about it. We're not happy about it. We're really not. I don't want to see anybody have to spend money, but like I said, we have an obligation to follow through with the sewer district and unfortunately you guys got caught up in it. I plainly have to say that this was not a surprise. Everybody knew this was coming.

MR. MILLER: Thank you.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: You're welcome.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Tommie Long, 4501 MLK Blvd. I'm glad I came. Some of the shocking figures that I heard kind of terrified me not just for myself but for my neighbors that are affected on my street. I haven't been affected yet. I heard that the neighbors that are affected are in the part of the street that's called the basin. The lower part of MLK. These are the residents that are continually get the bulk of the flooding when we get the heavy rains. My concern is and my reason is that it appears that we're not on a regular maintenance schedule to clean our storm sewers out from the city streets. I'm hoping that is the solution to our problem on MLK. Where is the maintenance schedule for taking care of the drains?

PRESIDENT BURKE: Mr. Dudley, do you want to address that?

CLMN DUDLEY: Yeah, I did contact Service and they supposed to be coming up. I'm not there in the daytime so I would know to get back with Tim. They come up there and they supposed to do all the catch basins, not just two of them; they should be doing all the catch basins on MLK.

MR. LONG: They showed up Thursday and Friday last week and they did two. They did three storm sewers, but the thing that struck me was when they came to the sewer drain on the east side of the basin when we had that last heavy rain that was all flooded there. That seemed to have cleared that problem up. But they only did maybe a third of the drains that they should have done. I hope that if they be doing regular maintenance on the other drains from the accumulation of leaves, branches, etc., that keep the water from flowing. I wouldn't want to have that talk about coming in and checking sewer lines with dye tests, etc. Pipes that are 50-100 years old are going to have leaks. Get the foliage out of the drains so the system itself can perform like it's designed to perform. Maybe not 100% but a lot better. Homes wouldn't be flooded. We wouldn't have so much water building up on the streets.

Sometimes a car comes through. The other day one of my neighbors had a visitor. MLK is a cul de sac. She went the wrong way. She got stranded in the deep waters. It was at night. She couldn't see how deep the waters were. She had to get a tow truck to come out of there. I'm just finding out about that. I feel it's a lack of maintenance. I'd like that addressed before you get into those contractors and big dollars to come out and look and not find anything to make a buck. People can't afford that. Key thing is somebody keep to the maintenance schedule and clean it out so it works properly under heavy rains so the water does not backup into the basements of the residents in the part of the street called the basin.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Mr. Chairman, just to respond. I hope that the problem is the blocked up catch basins because we will get out there. We will make sure that they're clean and that will save everyone a ton of money. We will get out there and do that and see how it goes from that point. If you're saying it worked on the one side recently then I hope to God you're right and we don't have that problem and MLK will be fine. We will take care of that.

MR. LONG: Thank you, Mayor.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you. Yes.

Ms. Estella Fortson, 4481 MLK Blvd. I've spoken with Clmn Dudley numerous times. We're talking about the catch basins. I really don't believe it's just the catch basins. I been in that neighborhood since 1970. I've had 12 floods. I've had the insurance company pay for two—in 1992 and 1996. Other than that, everything had to come out of my pocket. I lost everything been in my basement each of those times. In 2002, I will say that the Service Department came out and they did everything they could running. The cameras found out what a crack was. I had to go and dig up at my expense my whole front yard, have new piping put in. That was in 2003. After that, I've had numerous floods and last year I lost everything again. I had a contractor come out. He took \$500.00 at that time. They wanted to do my driveway drain. I couldn't afford any more money. I think and it is my understanding and you can correct me that we don't have enough storm drains on MLK.

I called the County about a grant and the man laughed at me and you can check that out because he told me the only monies that they had available at the time (November 2018) was set aside for the city of Cleveland Heights. The city of Garfield Heights had nothing coming. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Anybody else?

Ms. Mildred Whitmore, 13154 Forestdale Drive. I been sitting here listening to people talk about MLK. I been complaining since 1971 about Forestdale. The houses are shaking. If the houses are shaking, the foundations have to get messed up. Now they had put thousands of cubic feet of sand under the street. They say there's a crevice under there somewhere. Something is busted in the street that's sucking up the sand. We had a complete drain tile job. I applied to Community Development, Garfield Heights. They turned us down.

I called Mary Rose Oakar. The very next day somebody was on my door and it was okayed \$10,000.00. That was in the late 70s. Those drain tile jobs do not last always. I got water too. I even took pictures of when the city had somebody come out supposed to fix the drains in the street. They had all those pipes out there and they did not put one in the street. I brought pictures up and showed you all. The pipes in the street was just four inches. How in the world can those pipes absorb all that water from that hill coming down this way? It can't do it. So if they can't hold the water it's coming back into our houses. Something needs to be done. Like I said, they been patching and patching since back in the 70s. You got all those lumps and humps. They put this asphalt in and they don't smooth it out. You got a bus route there. And the houses like I say, you got pictures on the wall that dance. Something is wrong under the street. Somebody needs to find out what it is. I'd appreciate if somebody would. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Mrs. Whitmore. Does anybody want to address that?

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: All we can do is check it.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Anyone else wishing to speak tonight?

Ms. Mary Carter, 4476 MLK, Jr. Blvd. Good evening. First of all, I want to thank you guys for cutting the lawns as much as you can. I realize that it is a problem, but I want you to know that I do appreciate what you do as far as cutting the lawns.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Thank you.

MS. CARTER: My concern, the first priority should be the sewers. I'm not going to address that because you know what that is about. Please let that be your first priority. My concern also is as far as the grass cutting. We have unfortunately several vacant homes in Garfield Heights. I know it's tough enough getting the grass cut. I need to know who is responsible for the bushes that are overlapping the sidewalks where our kids have to go into the street and walk. The people who cut the grass are they the same people that cut the bushes on these houses that are vacant? Anybody want to answer that?

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: I'll respond to you. First off, we have a grass-cutting program. We do not have a bush-cutting program. When the bushes are really bad on a vacant house what they do is the Judge will put a Court Order out and she will bring Court Community Service in to clean up the whole area. We have Court Community Service in here every day but it has to be done through a Court Order.

The other part is if you have branches that are sticking out into the sidewalk that is a danger we will cut them. You let me know. We will cut them. We will do it if it's a safety issue without a doubt, but if it's on the property itself and the bushes are terrible. I've seen some vacant

houses where the bushes are unbelievably bad. That has to come through the Judge in a Court Order.

MS. CARTER: OK.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: All right?

MS. CARTER: All right. The other thing I would like to ask. I would like to know who is responsible. I know we're in Ward 1—MLK. MLK goes all the way up from the cul de sac to my house. The park area between that I think is Thornhurst and going up to Miles. Is that part of Ward 1?

CLMN DUDLEY: No, actually. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Cleveland cuts in the park. The park belongs to Cleveland. When they got real high when I called them they came up the next day for me because it was back and I went around some people and I got in touch with some individuals and they said the following day they done the weeds. They are coming back out again. That do not belong to us in Garfield. That's a part of Cleveland. Cleveland maintains that part. They are scheduled to come out again, but it did get high and they ran into the same problem. The machines was getting stuck inside and they was behind. When I called that day, we had some issue with dogs. A pit bull attacked one of my sons. He had to kick it several times in the face and it kept on coming. We notified the animal warden. I'm more concerned about little kids walking by the Miles School. They don't see this dog coming. Cleveland came out the next day when I voiced the safety concerns about little children. That's when you saw them come out and cut the high weeds. They are coming back again and they going to cut the park again soon as the rain clear up. They going a regular basis. I reminded them that it has grown pretty quickly. That's happening everywhere now. They are coming back to cut Crawford Park. That belongs to Cleveland. I did talk to them.

MS. CARTER: OK. The third thing I want to address is and I don't have anything against shelters for people who are disability, etc. I would certainly want to know though, how many group homes are in Garfield Heights? I want to know are they supervised? I know we have them. Is there a way for us to know as a community where they are? And if they are supervised?

BUILDING COMMISSIONER MARK MORO: Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Mr. Moro.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER MARK MORO: I don't know the number of group homes but they are regulated through the Building Department. We could get you a list if you would like.

MS. CARTER: OK.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER MARK MORO: They're not required to have constant supervision. They are supposed to be.

MS. CARTER: They should.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER MARK MORO: They are supposed to be as a regular living environment. That's why they're permitted to be in the neighborhoods. They're not segregated out as a special home. But they do have to register with the city.

MS. CARTER: OK. If you can get a list to Dudley, that would be good.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER MARK MORO: OK. We'll provide it to the Council.

MS. CARTER: All right. Thank you so much.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you. Yes, Ma'am.

Ms. Gordena Elezovic, 5264 East 102nd Street. Like you see my accent. That's why I was avoiding to talk. I thought maybe other residents going to say everything, but they didn't. Even we know all the problems, probably people cannot say everything. Like I moved to America in 1993, bought a house in South Highland in 1995. It cost me \$85,000.00 so I thought I buy a house. This beautiful colonial home. It cost \$85,000.00 and I had to sell it for \$30,000.00. Something is wrong with this city. So we thought we going to leave the house to my son. We moved to smaller house. We needed smaller on 102nd Street. It was that house \$405,000.00. My son said that house colonial is too huge so he just moved out. Left us with not be able to sell it. We owe a lot of money for both homes. So we start renting and we had so much trouble. I believe people who works in Court know about those things. Everything was taken by them. At Court, the Judge said the people who lived in I cannot evict them because they have kids and they lived another two months at my expense. I don't understand that.

So in 2003/2004 first big flooding. I don't know how could I buy this house. How inspectors allowed to sell house with 146 flooding before I bought it? How could I buy it? Nobody said anything is wrong. So I went to Court. The Judge gave us former owner had to pay \$3,000.00. Half of it to attorney. So what I learned it's not fun. OK. Because of the flooding and my son had asthma and all those problems had another who knows. Everybody knows this house is right in the middle with most of the flooding. I blame you know because Angelo was working on that house. We tried to make it work. Being at all those meetings, all those Mayor's promise and promise. Nothing was happening. So now, I can say big thank you for what you did to the street, but problem is now I spend. I didn't know you going to have repairs. So we spent \$24,000.00 last year. We took the loan and spent on waterproofing the whole house. Me and my husband, he make \$3,000.00. Nobody going to give us another loan for what we have do. We called again the guy who did waterproofing. He did it fast.

We got a letter. I had even problem to give that letter to the right person. I came to the Building Department. They sent me to the Financial. You have to open all those doors. Wait. Then they call somebody from third door and finally I give that letter, which says that there is no cross connection. That he did good job. But there are some pipes wrong. Old pipes. So he told me that we going to have to spend more than \$10,000.00 if we have to repair all the pipes around the house. Old ones that we bought house with. I just have no money. Can I go to jail?

CITY ENGINEER DAVID KROCK: I recall speaking with Angelo on your house I believe. It passed the test or it did not pass the test?

MS. ELEZOVIC: It did pass the test except he said that he pushed really hard water. Then it drips like little smoke coming out. He said due to the old joints.

CITY ENGINEER DAVID KROCK: Mark, did your crew witness this test? Do you know?

BUILDING COMMISSIONER MARK MORO: I'm not familiar with that one.

MS. ELEZOVIC: He said he called inspector to talk to him but nobody show up.

CITY ENGINEER DAVID KROCK: I will reach out to Angelo. We'll make sure that test gets re-done with him. If it passed the first time, you should be OK. We'll go through the process.

MS. ELEZOVIC: Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Is there anyone else wishing to speak?

Mr. Martin Stahurski, 5268 East 102nd Street. Mr. Krock, would you say that if you made a dye test in most of the homes in Garfield Heights that the drain tiles would be cracked or crossing into each other where the sanitary is going into the storm and vice versa?

CITY ENGINEER DAVID KROCK: I hate to speculate around the city, but I would say we saw a fair amount of that on 102nd Street. Yes.

MR. STAHURSKI: Wouldn't you say after 50 years. Those homes were built in 1970. Wouldn't just deterioration cause that? In other words why would we be responsible to do that now and other residents won't ever have that test done? Their homes are probably older and even it's seeping into the wrong pipe to begin with. Why would our street be selected because we got new sewers and street? I don't see why we're obligated on our own property to rectify that.

CITY ENGINEER DAVID KROCK: I think the answer quite frankly is the funding agency that we got the money from to do the street is the one requiring this and we need to abide by that or we won't be getting any grant funds in the future to do anything.

MR. STAHURSKI: Well the grant funds are tax money to begin with, aren't they?

CITY ENGINEER DAVID KROCK: Certainly.

MR. STAHURSKI: There was probably two/three dye tests done. The initial one from OHM. Everything's fine. They never called all the people that own the homes to watch them go into the gutters and to double check to see what's going on. They never called all the people they're verifying or as far as I know the inspectors. I don't know where they documented anything. So now, we're responsible to do that dye test again. To see if there is a problem.

CITY ENGINEER DAVID KROCK: If you recall, we did the dye test up and down the street originally at no expense to the residents for the purposes of understanding the magnitude of the problem and understand where we needed to go. I think at this point what we're asking is depending on what you as a property owner want to do to fix the problem, you need to work through the Building Department to confirm that it's been fixed. Then we can add the backflow preventer back into the sewer line, which is ultimately protection for your basement.

MR. STAHURSKI: At the March meeting, I don't know who asked this of the Mayor and he said if this was you, what would you do? He says I wouldn't do anything. It's probably in the Minutes if you went back and looked at that.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: I said I wouldn't do anything?

MR. STAHURSKI: If you went back, I guarantee you that's a fact.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: What was the question that was asked to me that I said that?

MR. STAHURSKI: The cross connection, which is going into the wrong sanitary/storm and vice versa. What would you do because of them costs, etc? You said I wouldn't do anything.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Boy, I have to see that in the Minutes because I got to tell you right now that was never said. That was never ever said.

MR. STAHURSKI: The people all heard that. That's why it was even more confusing. If the Mayor said that, why should I.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Let me ask you a question.

MR. STAHURSKI: Sure.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: And I think I know what your answer's going to be. I don't know if you'll admit it but I think I know what the answer's going to be. If we said you don't have to do it and the funding for the next two phases was withdrawn and they didn't get their sewers fixed, would that bother you at all?

MR. STAHURSKI: Sure, it would. Just like MLK.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: It bothers you. So what do you think the city should do?

MR. STAHURSKI: The city?

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Yes, what do you think the city should do? Should we tell the County we don't need the \$2 million?

MR. STAHURSKI: It's part of our tax money, which is the highest in the County. It should go toward repairing some of those things.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: OK. Let me ask you a question. Would I be fair to say that the cost is about \$100 million to fix up all the sewers in the city of Garfield Heights?

MR. STAHURSKI: Can the city get loans?

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: For \$100 million? The answer to your question is No. We can't get loans. So where do you want to go with that?

MR. STAHURSKI: That's not our problem. That's the city's.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Wait a second. Do you have the money to fix what we're telling you to fix?

MR. STAHURSKI: No, not without paying a loan.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: OK, but you're saying the city should find the money to do it because you pay taxes?

MR. STAHURSKI: I wouldn't call it finding the money, but applying for it.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Applying for how much?

MR. STAHURSKI: On your past record.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: What would be your suggestion how much we should apply for?

MR. STAHURSKI: I ain't no financial guru, so it's up to the city for all the Finance Department, Building, etc.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: How would we choose which sewers to fix first?

MR. STAHURSKI: The ones that need it the most, just like you fixed 102nd and Waterbury.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Do you think 102nd is more important than MLK?

MR. STAHURSKI: No, I didn't say that.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Why did we fix 102nd and not MLK?

MR. STAHURSKI: It's been such a disaster since they were built basically. Not only that 103rd and 104th, Grace, that whole area.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: You want to know something? Ever since the time that everybody came to that meeting and said you were having a problem there, we need some action, that lady that just came up to the microphone is the first one that said thank you.

MR. STAHURSKI: I sent you a letter.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Actually you did, I take that back. I did get a letter from you.

MR. STAHURSKI: After the street was completed.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: I'm going to tell you what. From the time that we started that project I got nothing in my office but complaints. Too much mud. Taking too long. Trees are gone. I understand that, but I'm saying that this is what we got for taking care of 102nd Street.

MR. STAHURSKI: The people should have been really happy with it.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: It doesn't seem like that. I understand the situation. I totally understand the situation. We will discuss what we can possibly do and if it causes us to lose Phase 2 and 3, those people just have to live with it.

MR. STAHURSKI: No other Mayor ever came through like you did.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: And I'm getting a hell of a lot of thanks for it, aren't I? I shouldn't even say that. I'm frustrated because of everything we did to work on that 102nd Street and 100th Street and the other streets we're going to be doing and we got to go find the loan, go get money, it's your responsibility, that's what I got to hear?

MR. STAHURSKI: No, it just seems like in our case the deterioration of the pipes is everywhere. Not only our street because they fixed the street and put in bigger sewers, which is fine, but if you recheck our drain tiles and all the other pipes on our property, that don't guarantee that's going to be perfect.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: So the test, Dave, let me ask you a question. The tests that are being done on their houses. Are they looking for the cross drains or could it be seepage? What's the story on that?

CITY ENGINEER DAVID KROCK: It could be a variety of things, Mayor. It could be seepage, the cross connections.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Then how would we identify that?

CITY ENGINEER DAVID KROCK: It's part of the test that usually comes through based on how much water is flowing through there. It would provide the plumber then with an idea of what the fix needs to be.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: How many houses are we looking at?

CITY ENGINEER DAVID KROCK: I think there were 23 total.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: You said if we did another dye test we could determine whether it was cross drains or just seepage?

CITY ENGINEER DAVID KROCK: Yeah. Yeah, I think we could determine that. You can tell based on the amount of flow.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Let me ask you this. If we did that and the determination came back that it was crossed, would I still hear why you shouldn't fix it?

MR. STAHURSKI: Or seepage. I don't know if that's where you'd have to correct that? It could happen just from the ground shifting, etc. in two years again if they use the old what is coming from the homes to the street, what is it?

CITY ENGINEER DAVID KROCK: The thing to remember in all this is the primary reason we're doing the whole project and the primary reason we need those cross connectors fixed is

because if we put the back flow preventer on your sewer line and those are not fixed, you're going to flood yourself with your down spouts. We're doing this for your benefit. We're trying to help you solve a problem.

MR. STAHURSKI: You're talking like if it's cross connected that means one pipe is going into another pipe, not just seepage where they're cracked.

CITY ENGINEER DAVID KROCK: It really doesn't matter. The only thing that matters is how deep the water will be in your basement. If it's the seepage, I'm sure it will be pretty shallow. If it is a downspout directly connected it will be pretty heavy. The point is they need to be fixed for your own benefit.

MR. STAHURSKI: All right. Thank you. Thank you, Mayor.

FINANCE DIRECTOR BARB BIRO: Mr. President.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Yes.

FINANCE DIRECTOR BARB BIRO: Mr. President, as the Finance Director, I'd like to address the issue he said regarding borrowing.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Absolutely, Barb.

FINANCE DIRECTOR BARB BIRO: I would like the audience to understand. It's not that easy. The city of Garfield Heights can't just go to the bank and say I want \$2 million. We are controlled by our limit of borrowing. Right now, the city of Garfield Heights can only go out and borrow \$2 million. I've asked Dave Krock to put Multiple Street Construction Phase 5 on hold. We have the funding from the city of Cleveland to fix the water mains, but we don't have the funding, I believe it's \$1.3 million, just to pave the roads. All right? I can't go to the bank to borrow money just to pay our payroll or pensions or bond payments or anything else that goes along with it.

We are highly taxed. We are taxed because of the Average Pay Fund, which is used to support our Police and Fire. The Fire Department wants a fire truck. The Police Department wants three more vehicles. There has to be money and there has to be the ability to pay that back. Right now, the city of Garfield Heights only can borrow up to \$2 million legally. After that, it has to go to the vote of the people. Now, if we're going to raise your taxes on voted millage, are we going to put the millage in MLK? Are we going to put the millage in the Midwest Neighborhood Project? Is someone over in Ward 7 going to vote for your millage increase, which is going to raise their taxes, but it's not going to benefit them because the millage is going to go into another Ward? It may or may not happen. OK?

On a daily basis the city of Garfield Heights has multiple departments, services---whether it's the Service Department, Fire Department, the Police Department, the Building Department, the engineers--we continually struggle on a day-to-day basis to make sure that we maintain the services that Mayor Collova wants us as administrators to do. He comes to me all the time. He wants Antenucci fixed. We need Canal Road fixed. We continually go out. Any one of you can tell what do I say when you say I got to get something fixed. I either say No or I tell you to go

find the money. We're struggling. We're a struggling community. Right now, all we can do is borrow \$2 million.

I understand the frustration at East 102nd. I understand it all. I live it every day because Mayor Collova has asked us to be in the Finance Department. But I want the people to understand it's not just do we fix the sewers? Can we fix the roads? It's the sewers, the roads, the Fire, the Police Department, the fire equipment, the police equipment, the Service Department equipment, which is all antiquated. This Council and these Administrators have come so far since you came out of fiscal emergency in 2013 where we're able to buy the equipment that we can. But there's only a certain point the city can borrow because we have to be able to pay that borrowing back. If we can do it, the answer is No. So as far as the financing is concerned it's not as simple as me as an individual to go to the bank and say I need to borrow money to fix my home. Don't they tell you you can only borrow so much because you only have so much value in your home? It's no different than the city of Garfield Heights going out and requesting that money and asking to borrow it to either buy vehicles or whether it is to pay to fix roads.

I just want the residents to understand this is what we struggle with every single day. I believe the Mayor can vouch for me and back me up on that. It's what we fight every day. Whether the real estate taxes come in, whether the companies are planning to pay their withholding tax, their net profits tax, whether or not they are paying their fees to the Building Department because they need contractors and everything else to go along with it. In order for us to borrow money, we have to be able to pledge money. If we don't have the pledge, I have to consciously tell the Mayor or the department heads No, you can't borrow it. So I just want everybody to understand or at least realize it's not that simple for the city of Garfield Heights to borrow cash. Thank you for that time, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Barb, for clarifying that. Is there anyone else wishing to speak?

Mr. Larry Williams, 5223 East 102nd Street. This past March is my third year living over here in Garfield on that street. When I first moved here, I bought the house. I had no violations at all. It was not in my agreements or any of my loans or anything for my house. The house we live in is right near Grace almost. It has no floods at no time. In the beginning when we had to meet at one of our neighbors house they had the chart and they said all the people who didn't have those certain marks didn't have the problem. Our house was one of them. All of a sudden now, they came back and said we have problems with the letters they sent out. We don't have floods. Never had floods. Ever since the house was built in 1969, we don't have floods. Why should we have a problem and have to pay for something that our house and a matter of fact too, the whole street should have got a letter—not just 23 houses. If you got a problem with pipe system, it should be the whole street from top to middle to the end. How can you just say 23 houses just got a problem? And everybody else don't? I would like to know how you come up with that?

Then, like she said, she's frustrated because the banks say you only can get so much. We feel the same way. How can we go to the bank and get loans, etc. Same thing. Mayor said he was frustrated. We're frustrated too. OK? We thank you for doing the streets as we just new tenants and moved over here. We own our house and we like the street.

We do appreciate even though it didn't get at our house, the curbs, the apron and the sidewalk you had to come back out for a second time and do it right because they put some fancy type of sidewalk and it was not the same. It wasn't straight so they had to come back and do it. Our new driveway, which the lady who had before us very brand new concrete cost a lot of money—the house itself and the money. The aprons not the same color or nothing. It's a different apron and it has a different slope going down to it. So there's frustration for us too. Because at our house and two other houses only three houses they had to come back and do too. Even with grass. They had to come back and redo our grass because it wasn't growing. We understand everything that you all have to go through. I understand something's in life and I have lived life, that they do have government funding programs for each and every suburb. You have to apply for them and go get the help money into your cities.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Sir, I don't want to cut you off. I want to remember so I can answer. First off, the problems you had that they had to come back and fix it, did they come back and fix it?

MR. WILLIAMS: Yes, but it's still not the same.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Yes, but did they fix it?

MR. WILLIAMS: Yes, they fixed it.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: OK. Thank you. Let me ask you this. Do you think that maybe one of my staff or one of those Council people, somebody a hell of a lot smarter than me, might have thought about going out to other agencies to try to get money?

MR. WILLIAMS: I would hope so.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Do you think we didn't think about that?

MR. WILLIAMS: I would hope so.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: So to answer your question, we do this on a constant basis. I do this. Right now, we're going out trying to find something for the police station and fire station. We have House Bill 166 for the city of Garfield Heights to try to get that funding. We constantly go out for every grant available and go out for all the funding that we can. That's Government 101. So we do do that and we don't get it. We get some. Don't get me wrong. We get some, but we don't get everything we ask for. It would be great if we did. We'd be in great shape. So to answer your question, yeah we do do that.

MR. WILLIAMS: OK. I wanted to let you know about my situation.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: If I can, Dave, he's talking about that first time that big chart when they had the house that we thought had a problem through the testing. Was that smoke testing?

CITY ENGINEER DAVID KROCK: Yeah, there is no map with a smoke test map, which can have either false positives or false negatives, which is why we always do the dye test later.

MR. WILLIAMS: He came out and did a dye test in the house too. We saw him do it and they gave us a thumbs up for that.

CITY ENGINEER DAVID KROCK: OK. Well, all I can tell you is the dye test must have come back with a problem or you would not have gotten a letter.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Sir, if you would mark down your address.

MR. WILLIAMS: 5223 East 102nd.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Dave, can we check that dye test again? 5223.

CITY ENGINEER DAVID KROCK: Yeah, we'll certainly check.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Let's double check. Maybe it fell through the cracks? We'll check. All right?

MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah, Thank you.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

PRESIDENT BURKE: Anyone else wishing to address Council? If there are none, we will move on to our Miscellaneous Business tonight beginning with Clmn Dudley since he gave the invocation. Clmn Dudley.

CLMN DUDLEY: Beautiful moment tonight. I want to thank everybody for coming out tonight. I thank you all in Ward 1. It's not just MLK but also from 135th and Forestdale. We know we got some concerns and issues we got to address, but it makes a difference when you come out and voice your opinions. Some people don't believe so. Some myself I can judge and everybody hears your issue. I hear here first but now everybody knows what's going on. Ward 1 is the greatest. No offense guys. I do enjoy that Ward. I look forward to coming back home. I been here maybe 25 years. I appreciate everything you all do. The way you try to maintain the community, etc. You believe in taking action and not just complaining. That's one thing about Ward 1. I thank you. With that, I believe we done heard a lot tonight and the clock is running down. With that, I will say thank you, Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Mr. Dudley. Mr. LaMalfa, do you have anything you want to add or share?

CLMN LAMALFA: No, I don't have anything tonight. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Mr. Nenadovich.

CLMN NENADOVICH: Yes, I have a few things, thank you. First of all, Kathy, Ruth Pollack did a lot of help for one of my friends, go him set back straight and worked him through a lot of hard times. He's very grateful. He's going through it again. She's helped him several times with the Food Bank and different organizations to help him get his bills in order. That's a very good department. I know it will continue on in that sense with you there. I appreciate that.

The parade, as the Mayor said, what a great parade we had. Lot of people put effort in there. Lot of people came out in the street and saw the parade. The ceremony at the pavilion, Star-Spangled Banner, fantastic job. It was sung the way it's supposed to be sung, like Frances Scott Key wrote it. I really appreciated that. I know there's changes, but I'm a stickler for that and I want to thank the girl that sang.

We have a holiday coming up—the 4th of July. Again, Independence Day. Again, something with Veterans, country and why we can do this and complain about what we want without worry about prosecution.

At our last meeting, I sort of praised the Police Chief. Do we remember him? Unfortunately, there was a fire on my street a couple of weeks ago. Not a very big fire, but there was this blur just running hoses. He ran into the house to look for people. When he slowed down, it was Chief Strobe. I saw the guy actually dragging one of those huge hoses off the truck and he did not slow down one minute. He ran that show. He ran it really well. The house was a little damaged, but he did a great job. I want to commend him on that. Credit where credit is due.

I want to start on the sewers just a little bit. One of my biggest complaints and as you have maybe not on your street, but people that cut the grass and they put it in the street and right in front of that house on fire, the street looked like it was really paved nice. When they raked it away there was that much leaves, grass, etc. The sewer was completely blocked. When I cleared it away, the water ran down. That sewer was dry. From all the leaves that people rake in the street in the fall. We sweep the streets. We send out people trying to clean the sewers. You got to help the city a little bit. If you blow it into the street it's fine. The cars will take it away. It won't get washed down the sewers. When the sewers get clogged, who do we have to blame? Ourselves. If my sewer's clogged in front of the house, I don't go out there and forget about it. I clean it. I do have a sewer. The kids that play out in the streets, if I see them throwing bottles and cans in the sewer I tell them that we got to go and pick that up. We got to help ourselves. I know there's a lot of complaints. You're going through some dire times, people. I know you are. Money's short, etc. but let's start helping ourselves with these sewer systems. Don't blow in the street. Blow it back up on your lawn and cut it with the lawnmower. The lawnmower picks it up really nice. That's what I do.

Last but not least, 4th of July is coming up and I wish everybody a very Happy 4th of July. I thank you so much. Again, Chief Strobe. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Mr. Nenadovich. Mr. Glenn, did you have anything you wanted to share?

CLMN GLENN: Just briefly, Mr. President. The city of Garfield has a lot of retirees. We have a lot of subsidized housing. We have a money problem. The Mayor and Administration has gone out and got a lot of money through grants. Construction, sewer problems cost a lot of money. We are extended out a little too far. We just came out of receivership of the State. We don't have triple A ratings, but when we borrow money, we are not always getting the best rate. We're getting a good rate, but not the best rate because we're not triple A. It takes a long time to get out, when you go bankrupt and get out of the State's grips. We have two assets. I don't know that anything can ever be done, but City View and Bridge View are major assets for the

city. Hopefully someday, Mr. Mayor, that we can get that turned around. A no-win situation for the residents. Certainly, it's not a win situation for the Mayor and his Administration or the Council because we do care the same thing as you care. We care too. Saying that, Mr. President, I am finished.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Mr. Glenn. I just want to wish both Officer Sisler and Ruth Pollack. I want to congratulate them on their retirement and wish them well in their retirement.

I, too, would like to thank the committee that put on the Memorial Day Parade. It was nice to walk down the street and see all the residents out there. We hadn't done that in quite a while, but it was really the mood that was set that day. I don't think I'll ever forget. People that were out there and how well received and how happy they were to see that we brought this parade back. Frank had his car out there. It was just nice—a community event. I really really was just proud to be part of Garfield Heights and be part of that event.

I want to wish everybody Happy Independence Day and a safe Independence Day. Watch out with the fireworks. Don't be blowing your fingers off, etc.

Last but not least, I remember a time when just before I had gotten elected to Council and I would sit at the table and read about what the city's doing. I had my opinion too; you know why don't we just go borrow the money? Why don't we just get the money? Where are all my tax dollars going? Then I got involved in the city and I started looking at the books. Ron Tomola, God rest his soul, he was one of the guys that actually sat me down and explained a lot of things to me. I got to tell you, I'd been in business for 20 some years at that point in time. I knew how to read a P&L statement like the back of my hand. When I looked at that financial report, I thought no wonder we can't get anything done. When I look at it today, it's not that it hasn't improved, it's just we take the money that we get coming in. Yeah, we have a high tax rate. There's a lot of people that don't pay their taxes too. We have to collect those taxes. There's a lot of money that we don't get because people don't pay. But then you look at it and you say well, OK, let's work with the money that we have. I tell you, you are all welcome to look at that financial report. I guarantee you there's just not any extra funds. I've watched a full-time grant writer go after grants and get grants and then also get turned down for twice as many grants as we've been awarded.

I've been asking for a grant for a dog park for probably four/five years. That's not a priority and I certainly understand that. I have a group of residents who would love to have a dog park, but it is not a priority. I understand that. My own brother said to me a few days ago, why doesn't the city cut the grass? I said well we were short a guy on the grass cutting crew. Why don't you just hire somebody? I said wow that's a great idea. I wish I'd have thought of that. What happens when you can't find anybody who wants to work? Because that's the reality of the situation. You can put a job posting on there and you might get a kid that's temporary. I talked to a kid today that's going to college. I said did you call the Service Department? No, it's a temporary job. I'm like you're going to college. What do you want? Just walk out and be a CEO right away? You got start somewhere, right? Not these kids today. When you can't find people that want to work how do you hire somebody? It's not just the city of Garfield Heights. You could talk to your floor covering installers, talk to your siders, your plumbers. You could talk to almost everybody. If the people don't want to work, they're not going to go after those jobs. That's the culture of our society today. I'm not sure what the answer is there. I certainly hope

things will get better for all you residents at East 102nd, MLK. I can tell you this Council up here and everyone of these gentlemen up here, I know we will work as hard as we can to make sure that this city grows and that these things get fixed, but we have to do it on a limited budget. Nobody's in favor of tax increases. That's really all I have. So again, I want to wish everybody a safe Independence Day.

CLMN SUSTER: Rather than go over the same thing Matt just said, I myself would want to say the same things he said about Ruth and Fred and 4th of July and the parade.

The one thing I wanted to add to this. You people go to a lot of meetings. You see Pernell Jones there? What's his job? His job is to be our County Representative where we need the money for those sewers. From the County. So when you see him, put the bug in his ear. Get Garfield Heights some money to do those sewers and possibly—I'm not saying it's going to be done--but give him something to do for a change, instead of being on television, etc. Tell him we need money for our sewers. That's all I have this evening.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Thank you, Mr. Suster. Mr. Vaughn.

CLMN VAUGHN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Dudley, thank you for giving me your extra minutes. Be glad to use them. First of all, the parade I thought was fantastic. I'd really like to thank Jason, Wendy, Frank and all those people. It was so organized. Most of all, the residents. To see everybody in a good mood and talking and communicating with one another was fantastic. I didn't have to hear complaints about why we don't do something with City View, why we don't do something with Bridge View, which, by the way, we don't own. We don't control. That's private property, folks. We'll say it again. Private property. We don't control it. But it was just a fantastic day.

You know when you're talking the first thing out of everybody's mouth is we pay a lot of taxes. Yes, we do and I do too. Look over your bill next time. Take a look and see exactly how much the city of Garfield Heights gets—about 23% of that bill. 23%. So it's not as much as we all think it is. You've got in there your schools, you've got your library, you've got MetroHealth down there, you've got our social services, which MetroParks. All good programs, but they all take money to run so we don't get that whole thing.

Ruth Pollack, Fred Sisler, best of luck to you two fine people. I hate to see us lose them. Now for some good news. June 27th, Ward 7 will have their Block Watch up at St. Monica's pavilion--seven o'clock. All are invited. We're going to be having our annual cookout: hamburgers, hot dogs, baked beans, potato salad. Come on up and join us. It's a night of conversation and getting to know our neighbors. Please feel free to come up. Enjoy us. All I ask is that you call and let me know who's coming so I can order enough burgers and hot dogs.

July 4th is coming around the corner, folks. We won't be here until afterwards. Be careful. Be safe. Enjoy the holiday. With that, Sir, that's all I have.

Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT BURKE: Mr. Vaughn.

CLMN VAUGHN: I would like to make a motion that we adjourn this meeting at 9:09 this evening.

PRESIDENT BURKE: On the motion made by Clmn Vaughn to adjourn the meeting at 9:09 this evening, all in favor signify by saying Yea. Any opposed? I'm waiting till 9:09. Meeting adjourned.

AYES: Vaughn, Dudley, LaMalfa, Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:09 p.m.

APPROVED:

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Matthew Burke
President of Council

Barbara Molin
Clerk of Council