# MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS, OHIO

Monday, March 24, 2014

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:00 p.m. by Council President Joseph Suster.

INVOCATION BY: Clmn Thomas Vaughn

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Roll call please.

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Council Members Dudley, Marincic, Nenadovich,

Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn

## **READING AND DISPOSAL OF MINUTES:**

**PRESIDENT SUSTER:** The reading and disposal of the Minutes.

**CLWN MARINCIC:** Mr. Chairman, I'd like to make a motion that we accept the Minutes from

the Monday, March 10th Regular Meeting of City Council as presented.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: All those in favor signify by saying Yea. All opposed?

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

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO COUNCIL: None.

**LEGISLATION OUT OF COMMITTEE:** None.

**PRESIDENT SUSTER:** Before I get into the **r**eports of the Mayor and his Directors I would just like to let everybody know that Ordinance 21-2014 will be withdrawn from this evening's agenda. Mayor Collova, do you have a report for us this evening?

#### **REPORTS OF THE MAYOR AND DIRECTORS:**

**MAYOR VIC COLLOVA:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman, yes, I do. I once again want to mention Judge Michael Astrab's Heroin in the Suburbs forum is on Wednesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> next door here at the Garfield Heights Library. We have talked about this many times. The problem in this area and all areas and throughout the whole country is this problem with heroin. This should be a very interesting meeting and should shed a whole lot of light on this situation in our area. So once again, it's on April 2nd, 7:00 p.m. at the Garfield Heights Library.

I want to talk a little bit and put a plug in for the Senior Center downstairs. I would like to invite the Seniors in Garfield Heights that don't attend the Senior Center to take a look at some of the things we offer. There's been a new program put together. I'll read it for you.

"Garfield Heights Senior citizens can participate in a variety of free activities at the Senior Center located in the Civic Center 5407 Turney Road including:

News and Views, a group discussion about current local and global events at 1:00 p.m. each Monday;

Movie Mondays. One Monday each month Seniors will travel to the Cinemark Movie Theater in Valley View to take advantage of the \$5.00 Senior citizen discount. The date of the movie will be listed in the monthly issue of the Garfield Heights Senior Center Highlight Newsletter, which is available at the reception desk inside the Civic Center;

Shopping, transportation to local shopping areas will be provided from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. each Friday. Registration is required;

Bingo. Games are at 12:30 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday;

Exercise and Fitness Classes. Flexibility Class is at 10:00 a.m. on Monday and Wednesday. Aerobic Exercise and Strength Training class is at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays;

Zumba (I was told today what Zumba was and I was also told that I am maybe the only one that didn't know what it was.. I'd be curious to know how many other people didn't know what Zumba was. I know Dave Mays never heard of Zumba.) Anyway Zumba classes are at 12:45 p.m. It's an exercise class done to Latin music as I understand. There's a fee for the Zumba class. The city encourages Seniors to get involved to improve their quality of life. For more information about Senior Center programs or activities call 475-3244."

Another new program that was put into place for the Seniors and the first one took place today was Coffee with the Mayor. It was very interesting. I come down, have coffee with the Seniors and they talk to me about their problems. It was very interesting. I'm really thankful that you guys set that up for me. Kathy, that was very nice of you. In Kathy's report she's going to get into what exactly is the eligibility to come to the Senior Center, but they do have a great time down here. You stop by and see the Seniors are always doing something. It's a great thing for the Seniors. Council, I would ask you to mention it to your residents because it really is a great thing for the Seniors.

With that said I wanted to read to you a memo received today. I'm going to take the names out of it but this was a memo that was actually sent to Chief Sackett and I want to read it for Council and for the residents. It says

"On Thursday a couple of officers and I had to confront a man at his house. He had taken PSP and was assaulting his family. When the subject threatened officers we had a to use a taser to bring him under control. In my opinion if we had not had the taser we would have been in a long, tough fight and someone probably would have gotten hurt. Instead we are able to bring the situation quickly under control. No officers were hurt and the subject only had minor injuries. Recently you and other city leaders spent a lot of time, effort and money to equip officers in our department with this tool. I'd like to say thank you. I think the tasers are a great tool that can help officers stay safe and can further allow officers to keep the people of our city safe."

They wanted to thank all of our city leaders and Council and the Administration for doing this for passing the legislation that we did last year. It's good to hear that. This was from one of our police officers to the Chief. I wanted to read that for everybody.

Next I wanted to talk about Viet Nam Veterans' Day, Saturday, March 29, 2014, 11:00 a.m. here at the Civic Center. We are going to have a Viet Nam Veterans' Day. It's the second annual one. We had one last year. It was a great event. Guest speaker Judge Michael E. Jackson, Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas, past Assistant Prosecutor, served with the U.S. Marine Corp during the Viet Nam War. He was a combat officer and commanded a Marine platoon as a second lieutenant and a Marine company as a first lieutenant. The Master of Ceremonies for the event is Leon Bibb. He's the news anchor for the noon news cast and he hosts program Kaleidoscope on WEWS TV 5, a television station in Cleveland. He's a U.S. Army Veteran of the Viet Nam War and he was also embedded within an Ohio based Coast Guard unit in the Persian Gulf War. March 29th is a very special date for Viet Nam Veterans and the nation. It is the day in 1973 when the last American combat troops were withdrawn from Viet Nam. This year we continue to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Viet Nam War. Sadly there has never been a finality for those who served their country and during that era nor for their families. Establishing a National March 29th Viet Nam Veterans' Day will deliver the earned respect and gratitude and ultimately the healing and closure to those who were touched by the Viet Nam War and its consequences. Declaring this special day will also uplift the spirits of our current generation of our nation's defenders, knowing that their and their families' sacrifice to service will not be forgotten. It will also deliver the opportunity for a whole nation to reflect and heal.

What this is about is that nobody ever thanked the Viet Nam soldiers when they came home for what they did. Many people looked at it as a skirmish. There was a lot of protesting about the Viet Nam War, there were a lot of likes and dislikes and a lot of political ping pong so to speak but nonetheless these Veterans deserve our thanks and this is something that I was at last year. I'll be there this year. If you have an opportunity to come, it's quite an event. They do a great job. It's a well deserving group of guys that were in the Viet Nam War.

A couple of other things quickly. I want to talk a little bit about our famous potholes. Our potholes in Garfield are a lot more famous than in other communities, but I have to tell you some of the fan mail I've been getting and some of the phone calls I've been getting it seems quite interesting. I just want to say and I'm sure Council understands and most of you here understand. There's no one in this city nor at this table that purposely does not want to fill a pothole. We don't enjoy driving in the city with the potholes. The roads are deplorable. We know that. This is the worst winter that's come along in as long as I can remember and I been around a long time. It's not an easy thing to fix the potholes. Mr. McLaughlin has talked many times about it. How long the cold patch lasts, the hot patch is only there when the plants are open and we're not sure when that happens and Tim, I'm sure will be into that in his report but just so you know, we're out there. Every guy that we have available is out filling holes. We know it's not an easy task and when you think abut all the streets in Garfield Heights we have to start somewhere. We have to end somewhere and unfortunately the people at the end are the ones that think you are not doing anything. We are aware of the situation. We're sorry about the situation, but we are doing everything we can and once warm weather comes and the streets start to settle back down I think things will be a lot better. I'm sure they will.

With that I would like to say to Mr. Dudley, deepest regrets for your loss of your father and I wanted to mention that from our family to yours.

With that said I'm going to get into tonight's legislation. Resolution 3-2014. We believe that the State actions on voting has taken away from voters' rights. Our entire history is about the right to vote. Everyone's right to vote. People have died for that in the past for the right to vote. We

think what the State is doing now is diminishing those rights. We are opposed to it 100%. I certainly am. I urge Council to go along with that. Resolution 4 is an emergency resolution providing for only one Council Meeting to be held on the second Monday during the months of May, June, July and August 2014. We do something similar to that each year. Mr. Chairman, you have my report.

**PRESIDENT SUSTER:** Does anyone have any questions of the Mayor on his report?

**CLMN GLENN:** Mayor Collova, could you repeat that date and time of the Viet Nam ceremony, please?

**MAYOR VIC COLLOVA:** It is March 29<sup>th</sup>, Saturday, this coming Saturday, March 29<sup>th</sup> here at the Civic Center. The actual program. The doors open at 11:00. The program starts at 12:00 noon.

**CLMN GLENN:** Thank you.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: You're welcome.

**PRESIDENT SUSTER:** Is there anyone else? Mrs. Marincic.

**CLWN MARINCIC:** Mayor, I'm working from 7:00 to 7:00 that Saturday so I will be unable to

attend. Please excuse me.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: I surely will.

**PRESIDENT SUSTER:** Anyone else? We'll move on to our Law Director, Tim Riley.

LAW DIRECTOR TIM RILEY: Thank you, Mr. President. I have no report.

POLICE CHIEF ROBERT SACKETT: Absent.

**PRESIDENT SUSTER:** Service Director, Tim McLaughlin. Do you have a report for us this

evening?

**SERVICE DIRECTOR TIM McLAUGHLIN:** Thank you, Mr. President. The last couple weeks we've been trying to patch some of the holes with the cold patch. We been trying to just get the larger ones. We're moving along. The hot patch plant was supposed to be open today. It was the earliest that they ever opened. We were there and underneath the silo and they decided because of the weather that they weren't going to make it so we're again at the whim of the weather. Hopefully by the end of the week the weather's supposed to pick up but we were ready to go today and it just did not work out. That happens sometimes.

Also I'd like you to know that in Garfield Heights we have 80 miles of roads. That's a very large area. Actually there's 88, but eight miles of it is counted as the freeway, the lanes of the freeway. We're not responsible for but there's 80 miles of road and this winter did really take a tremendous toll on the streets. As I drive them including my own street, as my neighbors have come out and pointed it out to me. It's one of the worst things I've ever seen in a long time. We'll do our best to get on it right away hopefully the weather breaks a little bit we can get the hot patch in there. We are going to start with the main streets where the most cars travel because

that's where you have the safety part of damages, accidents. So we will start on the main streets and go through all the main streets and then we'll start in to the side streets.

Also added to some of the problems this year with the streets is we've had 83 water breaks this year. Right now there's still five active breaks that are still leaking at this time. I thought that we got a halfway decent response this year from Cleveland. One time we called they had 700 of them County wide. They take care of 60 cities so it's a big task for them too. Those we will secure the street until a later time when we can repair them properly and we bill the city of Cleveland for our repairs.

I also have a e-mail sent to me from the Solid Waste District. It says:

"Just a reminder. The Solid Waste District has eliminated the annual phone book recycling campaign. After 25 years operation the program was no longer needed and has been phased out. The District's phone book recycling bins will no longer be located at the Cleveland MetroParks or any other location."

What they ask that you do now is put them into your recycling tote with the mixed paper and they will take them. With that that's all I have.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Does anyone have any questions of Mr. McLaughlin?

**CLWN MARINCIC:** Tim, you said 83 water breaks this year or total for over the winter and that?

**SERVICE DIRECTOR TIM McLAUGHLIN:** Total for over the winter. We go from the start of winter. For the summer you get a few here and there but when the cold weather starts that's when it really increases.

**CLWN MARINCIC:** OK. Thank you.

**CLMN NENADOVICH:** Mr. Chairman. Mr. McLaughlin, when will be the next Hazardous Waste Roundup?

**SERVICE DIRECTOR TIM McLAUGHLIN:** I think it's the end of April or beginning of May. I don't have it in front of me, but it's coming up shortly. We have it twice a year—spring and fall. I'm going to say it's in May.

**CLMN NENADOVICH:** Thanks, Tim.

**PRESIDENT SUSTER:** Anyone else have any questions? I have one. Tim, with all the water main breaks we had and you having to send out salt trucks and send our people there with a front end loader to clean up, is there any way we can bill back the Sewer District for that?

**SERVICE DIRECTOR TIM McLAUGHLIN:** No, that would be the city of Cleveland. We've never been able to. They will reimburse us for any serious damage but the time that we spend with the front loader, etc. I don't think that's billable. Because they send me a set billing type procedure. If the hole's 5 x 5 and they have to show them if there's any further damage like if somebody's apron got cracked, etc. I send a foreman out that takes a picture of it, then I attach that to the bill and send it so that they know we repaired that or they are going to come out and repair it and we get paid for it but if you go out of what the set prices are you have to show them why you went out of it but as far as the front end loader and stuff I doubt if that could be billable.

**PRESIDENT SUSTER:** The only reason I said that is because I know they spent a lot of time over on Danbury and Cumberland. I thought maybe there was some way that we could.

**SERVICE DIRECTOR TIM McLAUGHLIN:** I can call and ask but I think after all the years I think we talked about that once before and that's not included in there. They give you a natural cause and the water broke but you still have to clean the street so. It was exceptionally bad this year. How cold it was. The thickness of the ice, etc. I can check though.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: OK. Mr. Dudley.

**CLMN DUDLEY:** Tim, how are we set for road striping this year? Stripes, divider lines, crosswalks, etc.? When will it start?

**SERVICE DIRECTOR TIM McLAUGHLIN:** I don't handle that. Ptlmn. Piasecki does. He handles that and traffic safety. The only thing that I do they order the paint and I do crosswalks, but we don't do anything else. You would have to ask the Chief or Ptlmn. Piasecki. They set it up with Ron.

**CLMN DUDLEY:** We don't have no issues about being able to purchase the paint this year?

**SERVICE DIRECTOR TIM McLAUGHLIN:** I haven't heard anything. We had paint last year but we didn't do the whole area last year, but we got paint to do all the striping for the crosswalks and stuff but again Ptlmn. Piasecki it's always been handled out of traffic safety.

CLMN DUDLEY: That's good, Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Next we'll move on to Parks and Recreation Director Bob Dobies.

**PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR BOB DOBIES:** Mr. President and Council Members, good evening. This is a reminder if you are signing up for T-ball this is the last week for signups. Extended office hours are available. Please call the Rec Center for the particular hours. Softball signups are also on the way. They will continue through Saturday April 26<sup>th</sup>.

We concluded another successful futsol season (that's indoor soccer) program this past week. Thank you to all our players, coaches, parents, fans and backers who make this a very popular program during the winter. Our Division champs this year were the Blast in the PeeWee Division, Kicks in the Minor Division and Force in the Major Division.

The Hockey Boosters had a great turnout for the Garfield Heights Trinity Alumni Game this past Saturday. Approximately 200 fans showed up and supported their alma mater. The game remained close all the way through being tied after the first and second periods. This year Trinity was able to pull out a victory 10-8. It was good to see all the former players and fans come out and have a great evening.

Again the city will offer a Safety Town program. There will be children of five and six only. There will be four sessions. The first two sessions are June 9<sup>th</sup> through June 13<sup>th</sup>. The second session is June16th through June 20<sup>th</sup>. There's an a.m. and p.m. in each of those weeks. In person signups will take place at the Rec May 19<sup>th</sup> through June 2<sup>nd</sup>. This is for Garfield residents and those that attend schools within Garfield Heights. Non-residents can make applications and will be put on a waiting list.

Last I'd like share with all that the students from Elmwood Elementary, their teachers, parent volunteers came to our rink last week. That was because of our students' earnest efforts in the PAWS Program. The PAWS Program is Prompt Prepared Accepts Responsibility Works Hard And Shows Respect. They enjoyed the day at the ice rink on Thursday 3/11 and Friday the 12<sup>th</sup>. The various classes came in and filled our rink with such enthusiasm and excitement. In addition to rewarding the students' efforts by bringing them there I believe in part what made the experience unique is that many of our students were possibly exposed to our ice rink for the first time and the first time attempting to skate. After they left I talked to all the children and I asked them to raise their hands and probably a good third or better had never been to the rink before. Their lives had been broadened by a simple idea—a fun day at the Rec. Credit goes out to Ms. Abrams the principal and Ms. Suman for coordinating this plus the teachers, parent volunteers and Elmwood PTA. I, along with our staff enjoyed their company and I congratulate all the students for their hard work in achieving their successes. I can say that their participation represents Elmwood and our district in what students are given to embody they are the best. The Recreation Center was also a benefactor of Elmwood's PTA donation. A great big thank you goes out to Ms. Irving the president and the current board members for their generosity. It goes without saying their commitment (the PTA) to the children in four school districts benefits from their determination, hard work and ongoing efforts. It provides children with the opportunities to broaden their educational skills while providing avenues so our children may build and develop the individual character traits so they may be successful as they progress in life.

Last I'd like to bring to your attention. I know it's hard to believe but grass postings will begin tomorrow. I know the weather hasn't been kind to us but last year we did it at the end of March and we will continue to do that this year. Mr. Wervey revamped the list for us and I believe we're at 814 to start the season with. We were just over 900 properties when we finished the season last year. That concludes my report.

**PRESIDENT SUSTER:** Thank you. Does anyone have any questions of Mr. Dobies? There being none, we'll call on our City Engineer, David Krock.

**CITY ENGINEER DAVID KROCK:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to give a brief status update on a couple of projects that will be getting started this summer. The Granger/Transportation Intersection number 1. With that project right now we are just working through some of the right of way issues that are there. We have some right of way to buy and we also have some utilities that will need to move but that project should get started late summer. As well as the Turney Road waterline. I will have a lot more to say about this in an up coming meeting or two. Just let everybody know that this project should start in the middle of summer. We'll have more about that later. That's my report.

**PRESIDENT SUSTER:** Does anyone have any questions of Mr. Krock on his report? There being none we'll move on to Social Services Director, Kathy Rush-Parssons.

## FINANCE DIRECTOR RON TOMOLA: Absent.

**SOCIAL SERVICES DIRECTOR KATHY RUSH-PARSSONS:** Thank you, Mr. President. The Mayor had asked me to review some of the requirements for membership at the Senior Center. He already reviewed some of the new and current programs that we have going on. Just so residents know, anyone 55 and over can join for activities, trips, classes and any type of socialization that we offer. Anyone age 60 and over is available to join for activities and also to

eat lunch. That is due to a requirement through the Western Reserve Area on Aging and our Federal nutrition grant under the Older Americans Act which calls for nutrition for older Americans over the age of 60. You do not need to be a resident of the city of Garfield Heights to join but you do need to be a resident of Cuyahoga County. We do offer transportation to and from the Senior Center but that is only available for residents of the city of Garfield Heights. There is no membership fee, however a registration form is required.

I also wanted to mention that the AARP Tax Assistance has been extended this year due to a higher demand than usual. We've had a lot of people ask to process their tax returns. So we've added an extra day, Friday April 4<sup>th</sup> and we are currently taking appointments from 9:00 to 2:00 p.m. However they are filling up quickly. So we're hoping to get the last couple of people who are on the waiting list in on that April 4<sup>th</sup> date so if you know of anybody who still needs to get their taxes done and was denied an appointment please have them call us and we can try to get them in that last day. That's my report.

**PRESIDENT SUSTER:** Does anyone have any questions of Kathy on her report?

**CLWN MARINCIC:** What's a typical lunch at the Senior Center?

**SOCIAL SERVICES DIRECTOR KATHY RUSH-PARSSONS:** Today we had a chicken patty, Brussels sprouts, pineapple, bread, graham crackers, you always get milk. The meals are prepared by a registered dietitian through the Western Reserve Area Agency under the Federal Nutrition Act. So the meals do consist of a main entrée, either two fruits and one vegetable or two vegetables and one fruit daily.

**CLWN MARINCIC:** Any cake?

**SOCIAL SERVICES DIRECTOR KATHY RUSH-PARSSONS:** We have a birthday cake on the third Thursday of the month. But they don't provide it because that's not considered nutritionally sound so the Senior Center we do celebrate monthly birthdays on the third Thursday so we get a cake and they can celebrate everybody's birthday. It's a good meal.

**CLWN MARINCIC:** I'm just a few years away from it.

SOCIAL SERVICES DIRECTOR KATHY RUSH-PARSSONS: You have to register.

**PRESIDENT SUSTER:** Anyone else? There being none we'll move on to Economic Development Director, Noreen Kuban.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR NOREEN KUBAN:** Thank you, Mr. President, I have no report this evening.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: OK. Next we'll have Building Commissioner Bill Wervey.

**BUILDING COMMISSIONER BILL WERVEY:** I have no report this evening.

**PRESIDENT SUSTER:** We'll move on to Comments by Citizens on tonight's Agenda. Would the Clerk please read the rules.

## COMMENTS BY CITIZENS ON TONIGHT'S 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 SUSTER:** Is there anyone that has any comments on tonight's agenda?

David Mays, 8250 Green Drive. Resolution 4-2014. I disagree with this. If you feel you don't have enough legislation to run two meetings a month then maybe you should take this time to figure out away to enforce some of these ordinances that you have passed and aren't being enforced? Thank you.

**PRESIDENT SUSTER:** Thank you for your comment. Is there anyone else? Does anyone else have any comments on tonight's agenda?

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:** None.

## **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:**

**PRESIDENT SUSTER:** There being none we'll move on to Resolutions. Would the Clerk please read the title of Resolution 03-2014.

RESOLUTION NO. 03-2014

A RESOLUTION DISAPPROVING THE STATE'S ACTIONS TO RESTRICT CITIZENS' ACCESS TO THE BALLOT, URGING THE STATE TO REPEAL SAID RESTRICTIONS, AND CALLING UPON THE STATE TO INSTEAD WORK ON INCREASING CITIZENS' ACCESS TO THE BALLOT.

Moved by BURKE to CONSIDER BY TITLE

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

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

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

**PRESIDENT SUSTER:** On its adoption, beginning with Clmn Burke. VOTE ON ADOPTION:

**CLMN DUDLEY:** Before I vote, I would like to mention that this is very important like the Mayor mentioned and others. A lot of people died for an opportunity just to be able to cast a vote and if you watch them the State is doing everything you turn around especially within the last four years or so they making it more difficult for us to get to the polls. They are doing everything just to deter us and try to frustrate us and sometimes people get frustrated and they are not going to vote. They are going to stay at home. That's exactly what they want you to do. They don't want you to show up. They should make it as easy and accessible as possible for everyone to get to them. They should have it two weekends prior to the election time that they open that Saturday and Sunday. Like I say on Martin Luther King's birthday we always get to ride the bus for free. Maybe on Election Day they should give you free bus rides to get back and forth to the polls just in consideration. No matter what they do, you have to get out there and vote and if you can't get out then vote absentee. With that I vote Yes.

**CLWN MARINCIC:** I want to echo Mr. Dudley's sentiments. There has been times when my family members just a few days before voting day were called out of town. If they called down to the Board of Elections to vote at the last Election they would have been allowed to vote. It was too late to file the absentee and I don't agree with making it tougher to vote. It should be made easier. I vote Yes.

**CLMN NENADOVICH:** This is what our men and women are fighting for and I vote Yes.

**CLMN GLENN:** I vote Yes and I am a Vet and I do respect the process of voting. This is how we vote our city officials so yes, we need more people to vote. Get out there and register and vote. Thank you.

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

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Resolution 03-2014 passes with 7 Yes votes.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 04-2014

AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR ONLY ONE COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON THE SECOND MONDAY, DURING THE MONTHS OF MAY, JUNE, JULY, AND AUGUST, 2014.

Moved by MARINCIC to CONSIDER BY TITLE

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

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

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

**PRESIDENT SUSTER:** On its adoption, beginning with Councilperson Marincic. VOTE ON ADOPTION:

**CLWN MARINCIC:** Just before I vote I'd like to comment on Mr. Mays' comments. You said if I have it right that (can you hear me?) if I have it right that we should hold the meetings anyway and just have a work session, but just so you know Council does do that. Council Meetings per se are basically for legislation and enactment thereof. If we don't have any legislation for those meetings you are better off holding a Council work session instead. That's what we do. We plan on holding a lot of those this year. So believe me, we're earning the little pay that we do get. I vote Yes.

**CLMN GLENN:** Before I vote, which I am going to vote Yes, in case of emergency we can always hold emergency Council Meetings so this ain't going to be a problem at all. I vote Yes. Thank you.

**PRESIDENT SUSTER:** Before I vote, I know everybody's concerned about not having that one meeting in May, but we've already discussed that and if it needs to be whether we need to have an extra meeting in May, June, July and August, believe me we will be here. We've done it in the past. Last year we only had one Special Council Meeting and in the year previous to that we had two Special Council Meetings. With that I will vote Yes.

**CLMN BURKE:** Before I vote, I would like to echo the comments of Nancy and Gene. Just because we don't have a Council Meeting to legislate things doesn't mean that we don't get together and have a work session. Having said that I'm also under the impression that if we do need to have an emergency meeting to pass legislation we will be able to do so. Therefore I vote Yes.

**CLMN VAUGHN:** Before I vote, I feel that the summer session should just be June, July and August. That's my opinion. I believe that's what we did last year. I might not be right on that. So with that I can go three months—not four—so I'm going to vote No.

**CLMN DUDLEY:** Before I vote, I'd like to say that we know if we are needed and are called upon we come in and it's not no issue in coming in. You always know unlike any other city I

spent 19 years in Cleveland and lived in various spots. If you need to contact us for any issue or concerns you have, you pick up the phone, you call us. Nothing interferes with the service of what we provide for you. In the case of this right here like my colleagues say if there's no legislation, etc. we still have work sessions. If we are called upon for a work session we have the meeting. So it really changes nothing at all. Everything still stays the same. Just that there's nothing scheduled for that timeframe. It wouldn't do no good for us to come in here, but we still would be here because we have committee meetings that are still going to be going on through the summer. I know we have three committee meetings coming up for recreation and I know the members are going to have committee meetings so you still will see us here. So it's nothing in a lack of service. You still receive the same serviced programs that go on as usual. With that I vote Yes.

AYES: Dudley, Marincic, Glenn, Suster, Burke

NAYS: Nenadovich, Vaughn

**PRESIDENT SUSTER:** Resolution 04-2014 passes with 5 Yes votes.

# **MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS BY CITIZENS:**

**PRESIDENT SUSTER:** Moving on we go to Comments By Citizens. If the Clerk would 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 SUSTER:** Do we have anyone that would like to make a comment at this time?

Steve Workman, 13513 Broadway Avenue. It's like a private drive that's in between if you know the area down on Broadway where the ramp comes down and meets Broadway? In between the ramp and the ramp and the trailer park there's a private drive. I live back on that private drive. It's a road. It's owned by the city or it's owned by the State. I'm not sure, but when they put that road in there like 35 years ago and since they put that road in there they've never ever replaced the road. Never fixed the road. The only thing that's been done is every year I have to call for somebody to come out and patch it and they patch three holes and they leave. That's just one of my concerns is this road because right now it's in a condition it looks like B-52 bombers came across the road and blew up the road. There's rocks and big huge holes everywhere. I just bought my car a year ago and I'm afraid to even drive it down there faster than two mph because it's incredibly crazy. I have brought pictures of it. I don't know If you'd like to see the pictures or not?

(Mr. Workman presented his photos to the Council President.)

It's in really bad condition. It's been like that for years. I've spoken with Mr. Dudley for the last two years, trying to get some kind of resolve with this to see who's responsible for it and make them take responsibility for it. Like I said I'm not even sure if it's Garfield Heights or the State. You have the State highway. Somebody needs to fix this road. Not only that but there's a house

next door to me that should be condemned. Nobody comes down there and inspects it or nothing. I've made complaints abut it. Half of this house is falling down the back.

**PRESIDENT SUSTER:** I saw that in the pictures.

**MR. WORKMAN:** I just want somebody to take care of the area down there. It looks like hell down there. Nobody's taking care of it. I'd like to get some kind of resolve on it.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Mr. McLaughlin, you want to comment on that?

**SERVICE DIRECTOR TIM McLAUGHLIN:** Yeah. That road is built like that. I been here 36 years. It was just gravel and dirt since it's been there and we patch it. The State does own up to a certain part of it and I guess we do own the rest. Nobody's ever come to a complete agreement on what is owned. We do patch it but there's no base there. There's nothing. That would have to be a whole new road put in.

**MR. WORKMAN:** At one time there was blacktop way back to my house. The blacktop was supposed to go all the way up to that bridge I have marked on here. At one time I even did put gravel out there myself. I bought truckloads of gravel and put it out in front of my house, but when winter time comes the plow truck comes and pushes all my gravel away over by the woods so it's a waste of time for me to put gravel out there.

**PRESIDENT SUSTER:** The city does plow that for you?

**MR. WORKMAN:** Every now and then. Yes, the city does plow it. Sometimes I have to call them, but you know they do plow it for me. I really would like to get somebody to do something about that road.

**PRESIDENT SUSTER:** The Mayor would like to comment.

**MAYOR VIC COLLOVA:** Mr. Chairman, I if may? Steve, I'm not familiar with the drive. I have to say that. I thought I was pretty familiar with all the roads, but I will stop out there with the Building Inspector and take a look at it. We'll stop out there and take a look at it and see if there's something that can be done, but it's hard for me to respond now because I don't think I've ever been on that road.

**MR. WORKMAN:** I would appreciate that. I definitely invite you to come down and look at it and drive across it. It is treacherous. I have neighbors down there.

**MAYOR VIC COLLOVA:** At the last meeting there was a group here from Silver and we designated they had the worst street in the city but maybe I was wrong? We'll take a look at it. I don't want to make light of it but your road is probably bad, like many others. We really got some problems this year in the city, but we'll take look at it and see what we could do.

**MR. WORKMAN:** I would appreciate that very much.

**CLMN DUDLEY:** I want to mention that I have seen the road and I know Mr. Workman had talked back and forth and when I addressed it it was always an issue like the Service Director said who has ownership to that? We got to define that now. It's come to that point that we have to know who is going to be responsible to that road. As for the house, I believe Bill could talk about the house definitely need to come down. I won't mention on homes, we have some

homes that are worse than that one in our Ward. We have some, believe it or not. We have been pretty good at taking down homes. I believe that we took down one or two homes on every street in Ward 1 and we have some of the worst homes in the city, trust me. But a home's a safety issue that you got. If somebody goes in there and it collapses on top of him. Nobody forgot about that. I appreciate you taking the time to come and I appreciate you always keeping me informed. You are a good guy, Mr. Workman.

**BUILDING COMMISSIONER BILL WERVEY:** If I could, I think it would probably be appropriate if the gentleman would come visit us at the Building Department. I believe that's all private property. That we don't own anything there, nor does the State own that road to the best of my knowledge. If you'd like to stop in to the Building Department some time this week I've got overlay maps that I could show you what's what down there. As for the house I was just talking with Clmn Dudley and Noreen is working on trying to get some additional funds to do some demolitions and that's one of the houses we're going to look at to take down. If you'd like to stop in and see me I can show you where the property lines are, etc.

**MR. WORKMAN:** When the highway was put in the highway department built that road because the road was out further where the freeway ramp's right now. When they put the highway ramp in they also built that road.

**BUILDING COMMISSIONER BILL WERVEY:** I understand they might have done the physical construction of the road but to the best of my knowledge that is private property. We're not going to figure it out right here. Why don't you come and see me? I'll give you a card and give me a call and I'll show you the drawings and the maps.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Bill, one question before you leave. How long have you lived there?

**MR. WORKMAN:** I've lived there about 35 years of my life. I lived there when I was from kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade. My parents owned the house. Then they moved up here in Garfield on Maple Leaf Road for a few years and when I turned 20 years old I bought the house from my dad and I've lived there ever since. I'm 50 now, so.

**MAYOR VIC COLLOVA:** We'll check into something. Bill, you and I will take a ride there tomorrow.

MR. WORKMAN: Thank you very much.

**PRESIDENT SUSTER:** Just for a point of your information, Mr. Halan, next time you want to approach Council, you ask for permission. You're not supposed to walk past the podium unless somebody recognizes you to move forward.

### **MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:**

**PRESIDENT SUSTER:** Is there anyone else that would like to make a comment this evening? There being none we will move on to Miscellaneous Business, beginning with Mr. Vaughn.

**CLMN VAUGHN:** Thank you, Mr. President. I'm announcing that this Thursday evening at 7 o'clock at St. Monica/St. Benedict School we will be having our Block Watch and this week's speaker is Ruth Pollack so come and join us.

I'm asking that everybody please take time the next couple weeks start cleaning out the gutters in front of your street. If we got the guys out working repairing the roads they are not out with the

street sweeper so everybody let's get out there and clean up our yards and streets. Sweep up that gutter and help make our neighborhoods look better and I'm also asking that the kids. The sidewalks are now clear from snow so let's start using the sidewalks again. Not just for an inconvenience to you but for our own safety so that nobody gets hurt. With that I am done.

**PRESIDENT SUSTER:** Thank you. Mr. Dudley.

**CLMN DUDLEY:** All right. Not saving the best for last. That's OK, Mr. Chairman. First of all I ask you all to keep Devon Wright and his family in your prayers. He was the 15 year old man that was shot and killed at the Family Life Center abut a week ago. Two Fridays ago. Keep his family in your prayers. I was told he had donated his organs and they were donated to six different individuals so I mean, hey, he really gave life to some other individuals and that's a blessing right there. Nobody deserved to be shot like that and if anybody knows anything. Young people talk among each other. If you hear anything that you maybe don't think don't mean that much, you need to contact the police. Whoever done this he or she needs to come off the street. We need to take them off the street because if they shot that young man they will shoot somebody again. They are heartless cowards. That's exactly what you are if you got to shoot somebody, you are a coward. I got nine children. I have a 13 and a 14 year old at home now. I just can't imagine what that family's going through.

Anybody want to volunteer for Post 304? I decided we're going to try to paint it up a little and make it look a little better. It's a nice place and if you're a Veteran out there you want to give a Veteran a helping hand, get in touch with me. We're going to get some paint. We're going to go over there and we're going to work to make it look like a new building. I'd like to get started on that next month for the month of April. Take a couple days and we really do some outside work on that and also need a little help with interior work. It's all volunteer. If you can't volunteer if you'd like to donate some paint get in touch with me and I'll tell you exactly what kind of paint it is. You can pick it up at Home Depot.

We're coming up to spring. A lot of the Seniors are going to need help with their grass. If you got a Senior and you're living next door or you're a young man or young lady, give them a helping hand. You can cut their grass. My sons do it a lot during the summer. They cut the Seniors' grass and they don't charge them a dime. You can volunteer. I just can't cut I like used to. I'm going to be a Senior one day myself here. Help our Seniors next door. Help them with the garbage can. Help them get it taken out. They need that.

On homes I have to say this last four years have been some good years. Lat 4.5 years—almost five years. Between the Administration, Council and even the Mayor, we have taken down more homes in Ward 1, blatant eyesores that I didn't even want to walk by, I was ashamed that people had to live next door, but in the last four to five years we have taken down more homes there than since I lived there for 19 years. It makes a big difference. They do work hard to get them grants and I appreciate what Bill and Noreen done. That is a bad home but I tell you, we've had some worse. Look at 13206 (where I live at on Saybrook Avenue) on the same street. Like I say we had taken down several homes almost on every street up there and made the neighborhood look better. But it's not just to make it look better. It's a safety concern that we don't have no young lady or young child end up in one of them blatant eyesores, etc. So we do work hard to get that done and I'm sure they going to work hard to get that taken care of for you too, Mr. Workman.

I thank everybody to keep my family in your prayers with the loss of my dad. I tell you this has been a rough year. I laid my grandmother to rest, we buried my mother almost two years ago,

we buried my brother about a year and half ago. It's been a pretty tough time, but prayer gets us all through that. With that, Mr. Chairman, I thank you.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Thank you, Mr. Dudley. Mrs. Marincic.

**CLWN MARINCIC:** I would just like to say I'm sorry I have to miss the Viet Nam 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary memorial service this Saturday, but my heart and my thoughts will be with those in attendance and everybody who served in that absolutely horrendous war.

Secondly and lastly my thoughts and heart are with you and your family, Mike. I know what it's like to lose a parent and it's tough. That's all have tonight.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Thank you, Mrs. Marincic.

**CLMN NENADOVICH:** I'd like to encourage everybody to make it this Saturday for the Viet Nam Veteran Memorial. Always remember the Vets. They are responsible for everything you enjoy today.

Also, Mike, condolences to you for your dad passing. Sorry to hear that happened. I know what it's like. Both of mine are gone.

They mentioned about cleaning up the yards. Ladies and gentlemen, cleaning up your yard does not mean blowing it in the street. Because blowing it in the street causes more problems. The sewers. And they usually blow it into the street after Tim's come by with the street sweepers. Then I hear the city's doing nothing. You got to help us to help you. So remember cleaning your yard does not mean blowing it in the street. With that, you have it.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Mr. Glenn.

**CLMN GLENN:** Yes, Mr. President. We're going to have our Block Watch first Tuesday of April 7 o'clock. I want to recap the funding of the demolished homes. I was asked to make a list. I have a long list in Ward 4. Ward 1, 2 and 3 that had houses demolished. Ward 4 has many houses to be demolished too. Hopefully we'll get it done with Noreen's help. Thank you, Mr. President.

**PRESIDENT SUSTER:** Thank you. First of all I'd like to offer my condolences again to Mike and Mike's family over the death of his father.

And also I would like to donate two gallons of paint if you'll give me that information. I'll pick it up for you and get it to your yard. It's ironic how Clmn Nenadovich had brought up the point of cleaning your yard and not putting it in the street. I was driving here tonight. I looked down one of the side streets and here's a big pile of leaves in the street and I'm thinking if they're waiting for the Vac All to come along, they got one heck of a long wait. Or if it were to snow again and the plow would come all they're going to do is push them down the street. So like Mike says there's no need to put it in your street.

I want to thank Mr. Krock. This is an ongoing problem for years. We've been trying to get them lights on the bridges. They are working on them right now. I would imagine within a couple of weeks. They are putting in new poles, etc. So I want to thank you for that.

Also, Mayor, I would like to say that this Saturday I also will not be able to attend. I will be attending the funeral of my wife's aunt who just passed away. She was 100 years old. So that's what I'll be doing on Saturday. That's all I have. We'll move on to Mr. Burke.

**CLMN BURKE:** Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. Dudley, I offer my condolences for you and your family and I'll keep you in my prayer. I know what it's like to lose a father, having recently lost my dad back in January, who was a Viet Nam Veteran and I'm sorry that I will not be able to make this memorial this Saturday either. I do have a work commitment that I have to be at so I'm really sorry to miss that. I know it would mean a lot to my dad. Having heard the stories that he had told me about when he returned home and how he was treated.

I also want to say that I am going to start a Ward 6 Awareness Meeting. It will be hosted. The first one will be April 9th and it's open to all the residents. I want to try to get Ward 6 residents there and hopefully this will be an ongoing thing every month; every second Wednesday I'm shooting for.

I want to remind everybody to make sure you lock your doors at night. Actually I did read about some of the break ins and people had their cars broken into and I've had mine broken into in the past and I'll tell you if you do lock your doors it makes it a lot harder for them to do that.

I want to echo what the Mayor said earlier about the potholes. We do know that they're out there. We do know that they're bad. We do everything we can to try to get them fixed with the funds that we have available to us.

I think I've covered everything that I wanted to cover so I make a motion that we adjourn.

**PRESIDENT SUSTER:** On the motion from Mr. Burke to adjourn, all those in favor signify by saying Yea. All opposed. Meeting is adjourned.

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

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:55 p.m.** 

APPROVED:

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Joseph M. Suster

President of Council

Barbara Molin
Clerk of Council