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

Monday, June 13, 2011

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:00 p.m. by Council President Frank Geraci, Jr.

INVOCATION BY: Councilman Michael Nenadovich

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Council Members Dudley, Marincic,

Nenadovich.

Sarnowski, Suster, Vaughn

EXCUSED: Councilwoman Mahoney

CLMN SUSTER: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to make the motion that we excuse Councilperson Mahoney this evening.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Roll call.

AYES: 6 ABSENT: 1

CLWN MARINCIC: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to make a motion that we take a temporary recess so that we could witness the promotions of our police officers here, have a few refreshments and then recommence shortly thereafter.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Roll call.

AYES: 6 ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: We will now have a recess.

(The recess began at 7:03 p.m.)

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: If I can, before we go on, I just want to tell everybody that I have the distinct honor and the distinct privilege to have been asked to administer the oath to these auxiliary policemen who have done an outstanding job in the city of Garfield Heights. We don't really know them as well as we know the regular police, but they are there all the time. They support our police constantly. They are at events; they are at parades. In cases of emergency they act just like the police force. They do a great job and I consider this a great honor and the city of Garfield Heights is very proud to have these guys and with that I think we're going to start with the promotions.

We'll start off with Commander Michael Lange. (The Mayor administered the oath of Commander.) Thank you very much, Mike.

Cmdr. Lange: You're welcome.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: I'd like to now call up Fred Sizler. Fred, we came a long way from coaching basketball girls, didn't we?

Capt. Sizler: Yes, we did.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: (The Mayor administered the oath of Captain.) Thank you, Fred. Now I'd like Jerome Domiano, James Triptow and Gaston Corsi. (The Mayor administered the oath of Lieutenant.) Now we call up Michael Biegacki, Robert Kovach and Kenneth Krawczyk. (The Mayor administered the oath of Sergeant.) Next I'd like to call up Timothy Sopkovich and David Dosky. (The Mayor administered the oath of Auxiliary Officer.)

CMDR LANGE: While they are signing, I want to thank Council, the Mayor and all the residents and everybody who came, family and friends, to see us sworn in. I want to thank you again for sharing your time with us tonight and invite you to join us for bakery and coffee and pop.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Before we break I want to let everybody know that at the Council Meeting on July 11th we will be swearing in officers at that time so join us for that, please.

(The refreshment break began at 7:15 p.m.)

(The Council Meeting reconvened at 7:30 p.m.)

PRESIDENT GERACI: We are going to continue the meeting now. We'll have the Reading and Disposal of the Minutes.

READING AND DISPOSAL OF MINUTES:

Moved by Clmn SUSTER to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of City Council of May 9, 2011 as submitted. The minutes were adopted with six YES votes and one Absent vote.

CLWN SARNOWSKI: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to make an amendment to the Special Council Meeting Minutes where it says President Geraci. It says we have 2 No votes and 5 Yes. It should be reversed where we have 2 Yes and 5 No.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Roll call.

AYES: 6 ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: That has been corrected.

Moved by Clmn SUSTER to accept the Minutes of the Special Meeting of Garfield Heights City Council dated Thursday, June 2, 2011 as amended. The minutes were adopted with six YES votes and one Absent vote.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO COUNCIL: None.

LEGISLATION OUT OF COMMITTEE:

PRESIDENT GERACI: Clmn Nenadovich, anything coming out of Legislative Committee this evening?

CLMN NENADOVICH: I refer Ordinance 36-2011 to Clwn Marincic.

CLWN MARINCIC: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to make a motion that we remove Ordinance 36-2011 from the Legislative Committee of City Council and place it on the evening's agenda.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Roll call.

AYES: 6 ABSENT: 1 PRESIDENT GERACI: That goes on the agenda.

REPORTS OF THE MAYOR AND DIRECTORS:

PRESIDENT GERACI: Now we will move on. Mayor Collova, your report this evening?

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Thank you, Mr. Geraci, Council. Just a small report tonight. First of all I want to thank everyone who participated in the Memorial Day and the Little League Parades. Once again they were very successful parades. We had great groups in the parades. It was very well attended and it's certainly good to see that in Garfield Heights that's been a tradition that's gone on for a long time.

The next thing I want to talk about is the Garfield Heights Has Talent tryouts will be coming up on July 15th for the vocal; dance, July 22nd; Miscellaneous will be July 29th with the Finals on August 20th. Anybody you know out there that has talent (forget those dates) but if you know anybody that has talent. OK. I got them right off the flyer so the flyer must be wrong. That's OK. We will get those proper dates for you. We got about 30 days so let's get it rolling. Thank you.

The grass report. So far we did 201 homes and 79 city properties. Last year at this time we had done 550 homes. We started about four weeks late this year because of the weather. The weather has backed everything up in the city. This has been a very successful program last year and it is going to be very successful again this year. For those of you we have not gotten around to the Wards yet, they are getting around pretty quick. I think they completed One. They will start working on Seven and Two and Three. Probably already started this week. We're looking forward to that to continue.

The last thing I have on my report today is I want to recognize Mr. Pat Bluso who was a Councilman right here back in the sixties. Isn't that true, Mr. Bluso? In the sixties, right? He's here to critique us so he will let you know what you're doing wrong. Thank you. Good to see you. Mr. Bluso.

With that said I'm going to get into tonight's legislation. Ordinance 33-2011 is about the speed cameras. We all remember the speed cameras from last year. Myself and Council have received many requests and many phone calls about reestablishing the cameras, trying to put it back on the ballot. The voters turned it down last time and we understand they did that and we're not going to go back and do the speed cameras the way it was done in the past. We're going to do something a little different this time, something that I think everybody would agree with. I'd be very surprised if everybody didn't agree with this. We're going to do the speed cameras in school zones and playground areas only to protect the kids. We want to protect them. We want to make sure that if you're going to speed through the city of Garfield Heights, don't speed in school zones. You know that. Don't speed where the kids are. We think that this is the right thing to do and that will be coming up in this next election if it's passed by Council.

Ordinance 34. An ordinance amending Section 57 of the Garfield Heights City Charter relative to the manner of appointing Members of the Charter Review Committee. The reason this legislation is up is because in the past it has always been when you selected the Members of the Charter Review, each Councilperson selected one, the President of Council selected one and the Mayor selected one. Due to the new legislation, next year we will not have a President of Council and so what we're going to do this year if this passes and this is going on the ballot, we will have each Councilperson select one and the Mayor select two. So that's the new ordinance—the new legislation.

Ordinance 35. An emergency ordinance amending the previously entered into agreement for the establishment of the Chagrin Southeast Council of Governments. This is an agreement we've been in for a long time. It's a community sharing program. We originally had 14 cities in

it. We are adding four more in for a total of 18 cities and this has to do with sort of like regionalism, but in this particular incident it has to do with the HAZ-MAT; the cooperation of communities with the HAZ-MAT.

Ordinance 36 is the agreement with ODOT for rock salt and I'm certain we're going to need that. Ordinance 37-2011 is approving the AFSCME contract. Ordinance 38 is an emergency ordinance authorizing and directing Dave Krock, the City Engineer, to prepare the necessary plans and specifications and go out for competitive bids for the Rosewood/Bancroft Sewer Project. Ordinance 39 is an emergency ordinance authorizing and directing David Krock, the City Engineer, to prepare the necessary plans and specifications to go out for competitive bids for the Overdrive Street Improvement Project. That's the company that's going in where the old Nestaway is.

Resolution 27. We want to be a participant in the First Energy Program. This energy program that Ron Tomola has been involved with is a program where First Energy will come in and change throughout the city the buildings, the Rec Center, the City Hall, etc. will change the fixtures and all our lighting. It is to save power and it is to keep costs down and it's free to the city. The only thing the city pays is the labor to put the fixtures in. So if you have any questions about that Ron is on top of that. With that, Mr. Chairman, you have my report.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you, Mayor Collova. Are there any questions for the Mayor?

CLWN SARNOWSKI: I just wanted to clarify something that the Mayor said that we are not doing away with the Council President's position. We're doing away with electing it, but we'll still have a Council President elected from among the Councilmen that are elected next year.

PRESIDENT GERACI: OK. Any other questions for the Mayor? If not, we will move on to City Law Director Mr. Riley.

LAW DIRECTOR TIM RILEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a brief report. I would like to urge the passage for a Second Reading on Ordinances number 33 and 34, having to do with the Charter changes. For timing reasons it's important that we have the readings on these so we can get them on the ballot in November. Thank you.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Any questions for Mr. Riley? We'll move on. Service Director, Mr. McLaughlin.

SERVICE DIRECTOR TIM McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. President. I guess the only thing that I need to talk about is the patch. The Mayor has mentioned about the grass being behind. It's also the same thing for the patch crew so when it rains the patch plants do not open. We are very far behind plus with limited employees I'm down to two or three patch crews a day. We still have a couple main streets to take care of yet-Warner Road and Granger Road. We have completed Ward One today and the crew started moving into Ward Two. We're trying to do the best we can. We're putting down eight or ten tons of patch a day and it seems like a never ending battle. I know that you are getting plenty of calls because I am also receiving them. There's not much else I can do. I mean I have everybody that's available including my maintenance men I pulled out of the buildings. The only other thing that we do is when it rains, like Friday it rained in the afternoon and we didn't patch I switched crews over and tried to catch up on any other tickets or tried to catch up on some of the work. I have a large volume of tickets for catch basins, for trees. The street sweeper hasn't been out in two weeks. All these people are on patch and there's nothing else I can do other than that and the guys that picked it up they know that the heat's on and it's just like a never ending battle so I mean we're doing the best we can. I know you get a ton of calls. I don't even want to answer my phone anymore, but we'll do the best we can and possibly vacations are making a difference now too because I have people going off on vacation. We're going to try to go through all the Wards, one by one and we moved into Ward Two. Were going to be going to Ward Three after and we'll do the best we can. That's all I have.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you, Mr. McLaughlin. Any questions for Mr. McLaughlin?

CLWN MARINCIC: Mr. McLaughlin, compared to like ten years ago when it was a different city and our financial condition was a lot better, how many crews would you have had on the street back then doing patch?

SERVICE DIRECTOR TIM McLAUGHLIN: Usually about five. It's down to three. I have like four guys to a crew because I have a roller operator, you know, two guys out there and also there's a safety factor. Sometimes you have to put somebody out there with the flags and stuff. Depending on where you're working, you know, side streets versus the main streets, but there are so many things that are sitting there in front of me that we haven't even started. I mean last year we never even got done striping the streets. You know the crosswalks? There's so many things out there there's not the time right now or the manpower. Yeah, probably about five crews because I mean 19 months ago there was still 36 people in the Service Garage. There's 19 now. I mean it's staffing and the weather too. The weather made a big difference. We've probably only gotten patch out since April the middle of April maybe 15 times because it's rained every day. Once it rains, they're closed. There's no begging them to be open or anything else. They shut down Kokosing their operations and they're done for the day, so.

CLWN MARINCIC: I don't think people understand that when it rains you can't get asphalt.

SERVICE DIRECTOR TIM McLAUGHLIN: Right. I've had that conversation too. That's been one of the problems. This has been a really tough spring.

CLWN MARINCIC: Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Any other questions for Mr. McLaughlin? We'll move on. Mr. Dobies, Recreation Director.

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR BOB DOBIES: Mr. President, Council Members, good evening. As you're all aware the pool opened today. We are looking forward to an eventful summer. We are looking to do a Christmas In The Summer July 24th. We'll have Santa of course, a DJ with music and a raffle. We're working on raffle/door prizes. Check the Web, TV and Neighborhood News for more information on that. As I reported at the April meeting we'll be having our Annual Dog Show. This year will mark the 35th year. The day will be tentatively August 21st at the Rec Center. We are awaiting commitment from Dick Goddard who annually hosts the show over the years. Dr. Thompson of the Family Pet Clinic has again graciously committed himself to the program as the benefactor and we thank him for his allegiance.

I'd like to take the time now to thank a few individuals. First of all I'd like to thank a group of individuals who donated their time to help to make the city and Memorial Day Parade a little nicer with their efforts. They took their time and talent and planted flowers at Memorial Island, the clock tower and the cemetery. A big thanks goes to Ms. Becky Repasky, Ms. Noreen Kuban and Ms. Chris Piazza who gave me a call with the idea and we put it in motion. Next we have another group of volunteers who donated their time and efforts at Donovan Park to help spruce up the park area. If you recall the posts at the entrance to the park on Birchwood and Vista. They were rusted, chipped, coated with a very old silver coat of paint. This group has repainted the posts with safety yellow color which enhances the park area, but also provides an additional safety factor because the poles are now brighter and can be seen much better at nighttime especially on the sharp curb on Vista. Another big thanks goes to Mrs. Mary Liotta and her daughter Becky. They tell me more is coming to help keep the park looking good. I can only thank Mr. Turk. If Mr. Turk were here he would truly appreciate we used his idea to use volunteers.

This evening I put it on the table there for everybody. The school district has just launched a Gold Card program. There's applications over there on the table for our Senior Garfield Heights residents aged 60 and over. If you know someone in our city who is eligible, again I brought the applications. Once it is completed it can be faxed or mailed to the school district central office. Recipients will receive two cards—one for musical and drama events and the other is for the Northeast Ohio Conference (NOC) Athletic events. Those events will be free for the Senior citizens. This is a hope for the Garfield school district to attract our Senior citizens to attend more school events, interact with the students and enjoy a free activity.

Last, I believe the air needs to be cleared on what occurred at the Council Work Session on June 7th. I understand that my name has come forward as the person who created the arena of concerned residents which came forward to voice their concerns of the possibility of the Rec closing. I am here today publicly to say thank you to those persons for the vote of confidence in my ability and my popularity. I just wish this was an election year for myself and my name is out there. I first want you to know that Clwn Marincic is the only Councilperson to contact me when she learned of the possible situation culminating to ask if I knew or had anything to do with it. As I told her then and I am telling you now, I did not. When I learned of the situation I placed one phone call to a person I was bringing in to replace my Hockey Commissioner who resigned last month. I believed I owed him a courtesy call to inform him that because of the action taken by Council that it was brought forth by some that as a result that it could be a possibility to replenish the lost revenue from the signage issue, that there may be consideration to close the ice this upcoming season along with other options being discussed because of the deficits still looming within the city. If in fact the ice would have been affected this would in fact have bearing on his hiring and as I said before he is entitled to a courtesy call. If there is a single person who truly understands the difficulty we are experiencing as a city, it is myself because of what I deal with on a daily basis as the Recreation Director, but also as a school board member. I have to make those same difficult decisions when they confront me. I, we continue to do due diligence in my department so we may continue to enjoy all aspects of the programming while continuing to make things better and controlling costs. If you look at the last financial report the Recreation Department enjoys a positive balance through five months. I'm proud of that because we work hard to rid the city of its debt. If you attended the December financial meeting, in my statement to the Finance Committee I understood if the decision is needed to be made which impacts the Rec Department. I understood that difficult decision. I have not deterred from my understanding. This would be your choice and one I will accept if needed. I did not ask for any new allocations coming into 2011, as others did, for the Recreation Department because although we need things done there to improve the city is still suffering from the deficit and with the labor and costs reduction which we made in 2010 I knew my department could continue in the same fashion to help the cost. When things get better, which they are, I, we then will be able to broaden our horizons.

As to culminating the attendance at the Work Session, I do not control anyone. I can only imagine that the people who chose to come forward the other evening had genuine concerns and they wished to express themselves. As Mr. Grenig stated they have lived with the fear of moving for some time and are somewhat fed up because monies are allocated through the tax base for recreational programs. This, one would have to believe, was the overwhelming concern of all which attended that meeting. Over the last year and a half my office continues to field calls on a daily basis, is the Rec closing? Because that idea was planted well before I got here, but it has not gone away. It continues to surface with regularity because of talk. We handle those inquiries in a professional manner, continue to show optimism and assure those that we will continue to operate as we always have until I am told different.

I will leave you with one last thought which I believe in. Each program touches many. For example, if we take people and we have 200 participants, 200 participants equals 400 parents and now we've touched 600 people. If we add grandparents, aunts, uncles, brothers, sisters, friends we may reach 800 we touch and bring together because of one program. The

other important aspect of how the city benefits is because of the programming. With the changing demographics we are experiencing with in our city and the continued evolution of diversity I cannot think of a better venue bringing families together for a common cause—their children. We cannot put a price tag on this. This brings the diversity together in its purest sense for people to get to know each other and experience each other. I am very proud of that. My program touches thousands of persons. There is a true satisfaction. Thank you. That concludes my report.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you, Mr. Dobies. Any questions for Mr. Dobies?

CLWN MARINCIC: Mr. Dobies, you mentioned that there was going to be an animal show? A dog show in August?

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR BOB DOBIES: Correct, Councilwoman.

CLWN MARINCIC: I had a couple residents call me and say could there be a unique pet category this year?

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR BOB DOBIES: We are open to new categories. Absolutely if you want to forward them to me or have them call me?

CLWN MARINCIC: They are just looking for a unique pet category other than a dog. Some residents have gerbils. Some have snakes.

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR BOB DOBIES: This is a dog show.

CLWN MARINCIC: That's what I'm saying. It could be called the Animal Show. There is a dog category but there could also be a second category for unique pets.

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR BOB DOBIES: I'd probably have to take that into consideration. Through 35 years it's been a dog show and I think with the Family Pet Clinic although it expands from there right now it's being put on as the dog show.

CLWN MARINCIC: OK. The Family Pet Clinic sees all kinds of animals. Not just dogs.

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR BOB DOBIES: I wouldn't argue that. Absolutely.

CLWN MARINCIC: But do consider it because I had a couple people bring it up to me and say hey, their child has a gerbil or a turtle or a lizard. Could that be considered in the show?

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR BOB DOBIES: We'll take it under our consideration.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you. Are there any other questions?

CLMN DUDLEY: Would you mention the dates for the swimming training program? I got two calls and they asked if that's for the children or do you do swimming training for adults also?

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR BOB DOBIES: The Learn-to-Swim is for children.

CLMN DUDLEY: OK. What are the dates again?

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR BOB DOBIES: I don't have the dates with me, Clmn.

(Speaker from audience replied.)

CLMN DUDLEY: Monday through Thursday for two weeks.

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR BOB DOBIES: Mr. Dudley, adults can have private lessons too, but they would have to call in. All programs are based on the amount of people we get in for a session. We may add one on; we may take one away. It's based on participation.

CLMN DUDLEY: OK. Sounds good.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Any other questions for Mr. Dobies?

CLMN VAUGHN: Mr. Dobies, maybe that instructional stuff, maybe we could put it on the television and run it on the scroll and maybe everybody would be able to get the information that we can? Can we do that?

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR BOB DOBIES: We're trying very hard. It's still being revamped. It's still not up to full mode yet right now. We add things as needed. As a matter of fact people were calling for prices so we added that to the Website right now.

CLMN VAUGHN: One other thing, Nancy, if we brought in all kinds of different animals won't it become a zoo?

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you, Clmn Vaughn. Anybody else? We'll move on. Finance Director Mr. Ron Tomola.

ACTING FINANCE DIRECTOR RON TOMOLA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I've got a couple of things tonight. The city will hold its Annual Tax Budget Hearing for the 2012 Tax Budget. It is scheduled for Tuesday, June 21st, seven o'clock in the Council Caucus Room.

We just two weeks ago completed our first on-line public auction of used equipment through govdeals, which was approved by Council last fall. We sold four police cruisers and one of the old Senior buses. The net receipts to the city after the auction cost was \$13,786.19.

During this month the Finance Department (my staff), has been working to put the new financial package in place. We did our first conversion change this week. It was in the purchase order requisition area where if (you don't deal with this) but on a purchase order requisition is the account number. There's now two blocks on there: one for the new number and one for the old. Hopefully if things go correctly the way they should, the reports that you receive in August for the July statements will be off the new system. I want to tell you now, like I told you in the past, that it's going to be a whole new reporting system. It's not going to be what you're used to. I do have some samples in my office so if anybody from Council would like to stop by, and take a look at the samples, feel free to do that starting next week because I'm going to be in a training class the rest of this week. That's my report.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you, Mr. Tomola. Any questions for Mr. Tomola? We'll move on. City Engineer, Mr. David Krock.

CITY ENGINEER DAVID KROCK: Thanks, Council President. First of all the catch basin reconstruction project where we were reconstructing 31 catch basins the bid date on that is June 22nd so we'll have some results there. Then there's two items on the legislation tonight. Ordinance 38 has to do with the Rosewood/Bancroft grinder pumps. We're taking those pumps off-line. These pumps are currently maintained by our Service Department so this will be a boost for them, not having to deal with those. There are three left on Grand Division that we're not able to get to. It's just financially it just does not work out well but these other 16 we will get rid of. That is fully funded through our Sanitary Sewer Fund at the County.

Ordinance 39 has to do with the new Overdrive facility. This is a new street that goes right there at Granger and Old North Granger and we have a grant from the Department of Development for up to \$200,000.00 and the balance of it is paid by Overdrive themselves so again no out of pocket for the city, but both these projects are good projects. We hope to see them go this fall out to construction if all goes well. Thank you.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you, Mr. Krock. Any questions for Mr. Krock? We'll move on. Economic Development Director Ms. Kuban.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR NOREEN KUBAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, we have not received word about the CDBG grants. I know everyone's been asking so we don't know yet. When we find out I'll notify everyone. Also for Garfield's Got Talent the dates for auditions will be held on August 16th, August 17th and August 18th and Becky Repasky is the contact person. You can contact her with any information. That concludes my report.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you, Ms. Kuban. Any questions for Ms. Kuban?

CLWN MARINCIC: Ms. Kuban, what's the age limit for the Garfield Has Talent?

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR NOREEN KUBAN: It's 18.

CLWN MARINCIC: Eighteen and under?

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR NOREEN KUBAN: Eight to 18.

CLWN MARINCIC: Eight to 18. Thank you.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Any other questions? Building Commissioner Mr. Wervey.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER BILL WERVEY: Good evening, Mr. President. For those of you who bank at Huntington Bank you'll have a new place to do your business. At the Giant Eagle at City View they should be opening the new branch within the next week or so. The US Bank that was previously there is gone and they have remodeled and Huntington Bank will be there.

Over at the NRP Building at Transportation and Granger they've got the basement excavation dug and the footing started going in today and work continues at both Elmwood and Maple Leaf Schools and at Marymount Hospital. That's all I have this afternoon.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you, Mr. Wervey. Any questions for Mr. Wervey?

CLWN MARINCIC: Mr. Wervey, you told me the other day, but I thought it would be nice for everybody here to know, how many rental inspections have you done already this year?

BUILDING COMMISSIONER BILL WERVEY: I don't have a count.

CLWN MARINCIC: You had an estimate the other day. You said hundreds?

BUILDING COMMISSIONER BILL WERVEY: Hundreds, yes, but I don't have a count. If anybody that's interested wants to give me a call in the morning I could give them a count.

CLWN MARINCIC: OK. All right. Thank you.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Any other questions for Mr. Wervey? We'll move on to Comments by Citizens on the Agenda items only.

COMMENTS BY CITIZENS:

PRESIDENT GERACI: This portion of the meeting is for residents to comment on tonight's agenda items only. Comments are limited to five minutes. No one can speak more than once. Please raise your hand to be recognized.

Leroy Salee,13402 Christine Avenue. The gentleman was talking abut the swimming lessons? What is the age limit for the swim lessons?

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR BOB DOBIES: Mr. Dudley asked me if there would be adult lessons. You would have to call and make those arrangements.

MR. SALEE: OK. What about children?

(Response came from audience. Inaudible.)

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you. Anybody else? We'll move on.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

<u>ORDINANCE NO. 33-2011:</u> AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 59 OF THE GARFIELD HEIGHTS CITY CHARTER RELATIVE TO PHOTO-MONITORING DEVICES, PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION OF SAID AMENDMENT TO THE ELECTORATE OF THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Moved by SARNOWSKI to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: 6 ABSENT: 1

Motion to PASS FOR SECOND READING:

AYES: 6 ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes with 6 Yes and 1 Absent votes.

ORDINANCE NO. 34-2011: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 57 OF THE GARFIELD HEIGHTS CITY CHARTER RELATIVE TO THE MANNER OF APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE, PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION OF SAID AMENDMENT TO THE ELECTORATE OF THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Moved by SARNOWSKI to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: 6 ABSENT: 1

Motion to PASS FOR SECOND READING:

AYES: 6 ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes on Second Reading with 6 Yes and 1 Absent.

<u>ORDINANCE NO. 35-2011:</u> AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING THE PREVIOUSLY ENTERED INTO AGREEMENT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CHAGRIN/SOUTHEAST COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS.

Moved by MARINCIC to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: 6 ABSENT: 1

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: 6

ABSENT: 1

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

AYES: 6 ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes with 6 Yes and 1 Absent.

<u>ORDINANCE NO. 36-2011:</u> AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A PURCHASING PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, FOR THE PURCHASE OF SODIUM CHLORIDE (ROCK SALT) FOR THE 2011-2012 SEASON. Moved by MARINCIC to WAIVE RULE 24:

AYES: 6 ABSENT: 1

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: 6 ABSENT: 1

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

LAW DIRECTOR TIM RILEY: Point of Order, Mr. Chairman. Did we waive the three readings on that?

PRESIDENT GERACI: Yes, we did.

LAW DIRECTOR TIM RILEY: Did we also vote on considering by title? I don't remember.

PRESIDENT GERACI: No, we didn't.

CLWN SARNOWSKI: It was in a committee so we pulled it out. It was already considered by title.

LAW DIRECTOR TIM RILEY: OK. I just wanted to make sure.

CLWN MARINCIC: We need salt so I vote Yes.

AYES: 6 ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes with 6 Yes.

ORDINANCE NO. 37-2011: AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF THE LABOR AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS AND LOCAL 2729 AND COUNCIL 8 AFSCME, AFLO-CIO. Moved by VAUGHN to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: 6 ABSENT: 1

Motion to WAIVE RULE 24:

AYES: 6 ABSENT: 1

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: 6 ABSENT: 1 **VOTE ON ADOPTION:**

AYES: 6 ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes with 6 Yes.

<u>ORDINANCE NO. 38-2011:</u> AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING DAVID KROCK, THE CITY ENGINEER, TO PREPARE THE NECESSARY PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS, AND TO GO OUT FOR COMPETITIVE BIDS, FOR THE ROSEWOOD-BANCROFT SEWER PROJECT, AND AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF COSTS FOR THIS PROJECT, WHICH COSTS WILL BE REIMBURSED THROUGH THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS. Moved by NENADOVICH to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: 6 ABSENT: 1

Motion to WAIVE RULE 24:

AYES: 6 ABSENT: 1

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: 6 ABSENT: 1

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

AYES: 6 ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes with 6 Yes votes.

ORDINANCE NO. 39-2011: AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING DAVID KROCK, THE CITY ENGINEER, TO PREPARE THE NECESSARY PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS, AND TO GO OUT FOR COMPETITIVE BIDS, FOR THE OVERDRIVE STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, AND AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF COSTS FOR THIS PROJECT, WHICH COSTS WILL BE REIMBURSED THROUGH A GRANT FROM THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT AND OVERDRIVE INC. Moved by SARNOWSKI to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: 6 ABSENT: 1

Motion to WAIVE RULE 24:

AYES: 6 ABSENT: 1

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: 6 ABSENT: 1

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

AYES: 6 ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes with 6 Yes.

RESOLUTION NO. 27-2011: AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR, OR HIS DESIGNEE, TO PERFORM ALL THINGS NECESSARY

FOR THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FIRST ENERGY NON-STANDARD LIGHTING INCENTIVES FOR BUSINESS PROGRAM. Moved by SUSTER to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: 6 ABSENT: 1

Motion to WAIVE RULE 24:

AYES: 6 ABSENT: 1

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: 6 ABSENT: 1

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

AYES: 6 ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes with 6 Yes. Are there any Committee Reports this evening?

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None.

COMMENTS BY CITIZENS:

PRESIDENT GERACI: We will now move on to the comments from the citizens. The rules are you cannot bring up anything of a first nature. You must have previously brought it up to your Councilperson or a City Hall department person. You are limited to speak only once for a period of five minutes. Please raise your hands to be recognized.

David Mays, 8250 Green Drive. (Mr. Mays distributed photos of two unkempt properties to Council and the Directors.) The first picture there that I handed you is a lot at 94th and Reed. House was torn down about a year ago. I don't know if the city still owns the property, but I believe they do. This brush has been there for over two months now. It's blocking the sidewalk and has been blocking the sidewalk. I really find it hard to believe that no city employee has driven by there and saw that and simply had it removed. It's just mind boggling. People walk out into the street to get around it and it's been there for probably two months.

The next picture is a property on 97th Street, across from the driveway going into the school. This grass is approximately 24 inches high. The one across from it is not much better. It's been there probably like that for at least a month and a half to two months. It's never been cut. I go by there and I've never seen a notice on the door. If I was a resident moving into Garfield and I saw, going into the school just to see what it was like to enroll my child, and I saw that I'd probably have to look for a different place to live and put my kids because for the city to allow something like this next to a school is absolutely ridiculous.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Mr. Mays, are you through? Can I respond?

MR. MAYS: Sure.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Just so you know that we have three crews out. The third crew just started. There are two guys on each crew. That's six people. We probably have close to 1,000 houses we have to cut. It takes time to get around. I don't know what's going on with this wood because that should be out of there and I agree with you all somebody had to do was call and somebody would have came and took it, but as far as these houses go, you'd run out of film taking pictures of houses with long grass. That's what the rain caused this

year and that's what we're getting around to. We just completed Ward One. We've been working Saturdays and late into the day, trying to catch up. It's almost impossible to catch up. We've actually sat down and met with the County to see if they have a program that they can help us out with to catch up. I understand that this house is bad and it looks bad, but it's not nearly as bad as some of the ones they already cut so with time these houses will all be done and they will all be charged for that. It unfortunately takes time.

MR. MAYS: I understand and I realize that you're short, OK? But to let a house like this across from the driveway to a school where people go in and out all the time is a big disgrace to the city. I really do. It would take you to cut this grass in the front it would probably take somebody 20 minutes to a half-hour.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Mr. Mays, what is a disgrace is people don't cut their lawns. What's a disgrace is people let property get like this. The owners and the landlords let the property get like this and that's a disgrace. We're doing everything we can to help get them out of it. We're charging. There's no doubt about it. This isn't the city doing this. This is the people that have left their homes or the banks and the mortgage companies that aren't taking care of the homes. That's where the problem is.

MR. MAYS: I understand that too, OK? But I'm saying that property like this across from a school should have been taken care of a long time ago. With houses on the back streets, that's something else. To have people drive in and out. That isn't the only one on that street. It's deplorable.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: The hard part about this program is I get calls every single day. One guy called me up and said when are you going to get my street? I said we're getting to it. We're in Ward One. We're getting to it. Next day, when are you going to get to my street? It just takes time. If somebody calls from 83rd Street and somebody calls from Havana and somebody calls from Maplerow, you can't send a crew to that house and this house and this house. They would be doing three or four a day instead of doing 10 or 15. This is the hard part. The process is working but it takes time. You'll be up here saying thank you soon.

MR. MAYS: I'm not happy with it.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you, Mr. Mays.

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR BOB DOBIES: Mr. Mays, also I'd like you to know about two weeks ago on a Monday I sent the crews out with 30 properties to do. The other side of this is that yes, there is that property there and there may be more on that street but out of those 30 properties they only had to cut six, because all the other properties were done. So the effect of the program itself where we cut 500 properties by this time last year. The weather, as the Mayor stated, has a big effect on it because many of those properties are still wet and whether it took a half hour or 40 minutes to do a lot now it takes 1 and a half hours or two hours to do that same lot. Even with commercial equipment. All I'm saying is the program is working on the other extent because people are waking up and saying hey, either I cut this or they're going to charge me.

Leonard Leon, Briarcliff Drive. Good evening, President of Council, Members of Council, Mr. Mayor. I would like to commend all Members of Council for the great job that they've been doing for the grass cutting around Ward Five and whatever area the times that they had. I also want to commend the Service Director, Mr. McLaughlin. Even though your crew has been so short the great job that you have been doing. And you, Mr. Mayor, thank you for your response to helping our residents in Ward Five. You, Mr. Suster, thank you also. And one more thing, Mr. Suster, if you can get the police department again to look into Antenucci Drive with those vehicles that are over five tons—semis--different hours during the day and the evening. They are violating Antenucci Drive. Other than that and you Mr. Dobies, you're doing a good job. I also want to commend Mr. Bluso for the great job he is doing in his cutting.

He should be highly recommended and commended and don't give up on that program. Thank you.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you, Mr. Leon. Anybody else?

Eugene Glenn, 5218 East 100th Street. Ward Four. I'm here today to talk on behalf of Mary Liotta. There's going to be a National Night Against Crime. It will be held on July 30th from one o'clock to four o'clock at The Rock Church on Garfield Boulevard. Mary needs volunteers to monitor kids' games, to sell raffle tickets for two bikes they're going to raffle off and servers to serve hot dogs (provided by the Mayor, by the way). DJs will be providing a variety of music. The fire department will handle the smokehouse that teaches safety to kids about fire. Wilden Hastings will teach parents about the safeguards of the Internet. Also t-shirts will be available. Mary needs volunteers. Contact Mary. The telephone number for Mary Liotta is (216) 402-8079. It's a fun day for all. We'd like to have a large crowd out there. Thank you, Council.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you, Mr. Glenn. Anybody else? Anybody else? We'll move on. Miscellaneous. We'll start off with Clmn Dudley.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

CLMN DUDLEY: I get to go first tonight. I'm not going to be the best for last. I just want to mention we all know the grass was an issue and it was because of the saturation that it fell behind. Actually my street hasn't been done. My street is the last street that I really wanted to see done in the Ward because everybody's street should have been done prior to mine so I will get my street done tomorrow, Mayor. Believe it or not I got some grass on my street that's probably higher than my waist right now. I have to pass it every day that I leave my house. It's been rough. I understand Mr. Mays, it's bad to have to look at and I live the next street over from the school believe it or not. They have worked hard and because of saturation you could have seen them sometimes where the wheels were spinning. They couldn't get a good cut. If they cut it then and there they had to come back and cut it again, so that's what really caused them to fall behind. But all in all, they done a great job, which I understand the circumstances they had to perform this year, so I'm really proud of the crosscutting unit that we have.

I'd also like to mention if I don't get a chance to see her, Ms. Jackson. We got a project we started up quite some time ago that we didn't finish. My apology to her that it hasn't been done yet, but it's going to be taken care of within the next two weeks. That's part of some of the volunteer work that we're doing in the community to help people out.

I also want to thank that young lady over there, because I never stopped to thank Ms. Whitmore. She comes out. She's from Ward One. To almost every meeting I have seen this lady when it rains, snow or sleet, she's there and I thank Mr. Salee. He gives of his time to be here too and I appreciate you all coming out, I really do.

I thank the Mayor. Like I say you done a great job in really putting this city together as well as my colleagues on Council. I think we done a lot. We have some hard work ahead of us. I got faith the city's going to turn itself around. I'm not doubting that things are going to get better and get better sooner than we think it is. Basically that's what I'd like to say and say hello to the residents and I appreciate their patience on the grass issue and I appreciate their patience and not calling every minute concerning the patch work being done. We know the asphalt yard was late opening. We know the constant rain prevented them from patching up a lot of holes, but I thank the people in Ward One because they been pretty patient, you know? And not been a significant amount of complaints. They understand what we're going through.

I also want to mention one last thing. You see that the cameras are coming up and definitely

we do need them cameras in the playground area. When I see them come by on 131St some time and they hook that left, they don't want to wait on the light and they shoot around where the kids are playing. They go down Forestdale on the race to beat the light. So we need a camera there. It's not a money issue, but it's a safety issue and if you're not doing the wrong thing you don't have to worry about it. Like we said a majority of people getting them tickets don't even live in our city anyway. So, I was in support of it at the beginning, Mayor, and I am strongly in support of it now. That's all I have to say for tonight.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you, Councilman.

CLWN MARINCIC: I just wanted to relate to everybody that this City Council Meeting is not the only meeting City Council Members attend. This council meets for probably dozens and dozens of other meetings throughout the year. There are Finance meetings, there are Building Committee meetings, there are public hearings, there are Safety Committee meetings. I bet you at the end of the year it wouldn't surprise me at all if I found out I attended 100 meetings. Most of these meetings, in fact, every single one I've ever attended was for the good of all of our residents in town.

Last Tuesday the Mayor held a Work Session to discuss the city's finances. How the rumor was spread around this town that it was to close our Rec Center, shut down baseball, hockey, volleyball, everything you could think of, I'll never understand. When I heard it first thing I did was, as Mr. Dobies says, I called and said somebody told me it was you. And he set my mind at ease when he told me it wasn't him, but whoever started this rumor should be ashamed of themselves. This City Council would never make a move like that unless they discussed it with the public first. Our children need things to do this summer. Shutting down baseball would be a crime, but hundreds had to turn out, cancel games and waste their time coming up for a rumor last Tuesday. I feel terrible about that and, as I said, whoever started that rumor--shame on them. It really got around, didn't it? I don't know how they did it, but they did it.

Mayor, I have a question for you. It's that time of year when elections are going on and petitions are circulating all over the place. With the past Administration, other than like the Democrat Club, it was frowned upon getting petitions signed here at City Hall and interrupting other things. Are you different with that? Is it OK to get petitions signed up here?

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: I personally don't have a problem with it at all.

CLWN MARINCIC: OK. So you don't care if people circulate their petitions up here?

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: I think it's good that people want to run for office. I don't have a problem with that. I don't know if there are some legalities involved, but as far as personal, Tim, maybe you have something?

LAW DIRECTOR TIM RILEY: It's a public building. It's a public meeting. It's the essence of democracy that somebody come here with a petition to have it signed and so you could not prevent them unless they would be destructive to the meeting.

CLWN MARINCIC: OK. That's why I was asking because as I said, in the past it was sort of frowned upon. If it's OK now mine are already in so I'm not worried about me. That's all I have tonight.

CLMN NENADOVICH: I'd like to take this time to honor the officers that were sworn in tonight. I wish that they serve with pride, honor and have a very safe tour of duty. I wish them all the best in the world.

And another thing I want to talk about is a couple weeks ago it was Memorial Day and I went to an early morning ceremony and the Vets—they are very, very dear to my heart, all those

that served the country, but the man said something very profound. He said we remember our Vets two days a year. So with that, you Vets, I salute you. That's all.

CLWN SARNOWSKI: Mr. Wervey, with this 94th and Reed, I know that a couple people called it in with comments about it and we did have the grass crew go out and cut it with this pile there. Could you tell us what's being done with it?

BUILDING COMMISSIONER BILL WERVEY: We've cited him, but I couldn't remember whether that was a Land Bank lot and it is not a Land Bank lot. It's an owner that is out of town and I think we were going to try and get the community service guys to pick that up.

CLWN SARNOWSKI: Thank you. I just want to wish all the fathers out there and our Council Happy Fathers' Day for next Sunday and I have nothing else to say.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you, Debbie.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Roll call

CLMN SUSTER: In regards to what Nancy was talking about as far as these petitions go, I can remember on several instances where City Council was passing out smoke detectors upstairs at the reception area and when we were passing out the smoke detectors at that time we were also getting signatures for petitions so and also at the Democratic Club meeting they get people that ask to have petitions there but also as Mr. Riley had said, this is a public building and it is allowed, as far as I know, and with that that's all I have this evening.

CLMN VAUGHN: Mr. McLaughlin, Mayor Collova, I want to tell you how well I thought Turney Road looked for both of the parades. I thought the crews did a great job and it was nice to see the flags out and everybody out. The guys did a great job cleaning up this year and they should be complimented on that.

Next what I want to talk about is as you know, Clmn Mahoney is out and I want everybody to keep Tracy in your prayers. She had a very touching procedure done on Friday and she is not going to be able to take calls or talk to people on the phone for the next few days, probably till the end of the week. I have offered to cover her Ward so if anybody in Ward Six needs anything please feel free to call me and again, keep Tracy in your prayers. With that I ask that we adjourn this meeting, Sir.

AYES: 6 ABSENT: 1	
PRESIDENT GERACI: Meeting adjourned.	
MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:32 p.m.	
APPROVED:	RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:
Frank Geraci, Jr. President of Council	Barbara Molin Clerk of Council