

FINDLAY CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

REGULAR SESSION

December 4, 2018

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

PRESENT: Frische, Harrington, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough

ABSENT: Ostrander, Watson, Wobser

President Monday opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a few moments of meditation in memory of President H. W. Bush and a former Councilmember Bert Rayl.

ACCEPTANCE/CHANGES TO PREVIOUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES:

- Councilman Slough moved to accept the November 20, 2018 Public Hearing to rezone 2475 Crystal Avenue rezone via Ordinance No. 2018-107, seconded by Councilman Harrington. All were in favor. Motion carried. Filed.
- Councilman Slough moved to accept the November 20, 2018 Regular Session City Council meeting minutes. Councilman Shindledecker seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. Filed.

ADD-ON/REPLACEMENT/REMOVAL FROM THE AGENDA:

Councilman Russel moved to replace the following to tonight's agenda. Councilman Slough seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. Filed.

REPLACEMENTS:

- Ordinance No. 2018-121 – 2018 annual sewer televising project (**LEGISLATION** section)
 - o Changed SECTION 1: Project No. ~~35680200~~ to now be 3568100 (TO:)
- Ordinance No. 2018-125 – elected officials salary ordinance (**LEGISLATION** section)
 - o Changed SECTION 2: from \$80,300 now be \$80,200

PROCLAMATIONS: - none.

RECOGNITION/RETIREMENT RESOLUTIONS: - none.

PETITIONS: - none.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: - none.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

Attorney Kelton Smith/Charles Williams – Why City Council cannot deny free speech; the passing of Bert Rayl

Mr. Williams asked if Attorney Smith could address Council on what free speech is all about. Council President replied that would be fine and that it will be part of Mr. Williams requested four (4) minutes. Mr. Smith noted that Mr. Williams asked him to come to Council tonight, but did not tell him what he was coming for, so he will be speaking off the cuff. Going back to the Founding Fathers who were pretty smart guys who decided that they did not want people telling them what they could and couldn't say. They did not want the government telling them what they could and couldn't say. There are limitations (i.e. can't yell fire, etc.). They wanted an exchange of opinions and thoughts because that would be best for our country. Mr. Williams believes that there have been shackles placed upon the people's freedom of speech within this room and before this body. The four (4) minute rule kind of makes sense as well as any rule that keeps decorum and keeps individuals respectable by paying respect to others. If someone were to come to Council and preach anything, even possibly rebellion, he is unsure if there are any laws against that. The First Amendment of the Constitution allows them to say that. Whether they actively practice rebellion is something else. If someone comes to Council and says something is wrong or something should be changed, there is nothing that he can think of that can be done as long as they are being respectful and are following the four (4) minute rule, there should not be any reason to say they cannot do that as long as the speaker is not fighting, not being nasty, etc. He has noticed all kinds of letters to the Editor in the newspaper the last couple of days about what is offensive, what is appropriate, what is the right thing, what is allowed and what is not allowed. When restraints are put on speech, those kinds of questions come up. He asked who the author is that puts the rules together and who sets the limits. In the legal field, it is the Courts. Council President Monday reminded Mr. Smith that he has one (1) minute remaining on his time. Mr. Smith continued stating that past precedents and past cases can be reviewed where the Courts have made a decision. It may be that a Court has said that someone cannot yell fire. That would be a decision of a Court. It is difficult when there is a body such as Findlay City Council that says they are going to determine what is appropriate and tell you what is appropriate after someone has spoke. They will not know what is appropriate before hand. If someone comes before Council and talks about something they do not like, then they will be squelched. That is what freedom of speech is all about.

Mr. Williams asked if he could speak about Mr. Rayl with the time that is left of his allowed four (4) minutes. Council President Monday replied he will allow him a few extra minutes. Mr. Williams noted that Mr. Rayl was his teacher. He was a man of honor. He even shook his hand on that. Mr. Rayl's goal was about what he could do for Findlay as Councilwoman Frische and a few others do. It is very important to him to talk about Mr. Rayl for a moment. He was a schoolteacher. He was drafted in 1957. He changed his life. He helped him get a job when he was in school so he could eat. Mr. Williams was a sixteen (16) year old boy that had nowhere to stay and Mr. Rayl helped him out. He helped out a lot of kids. He helped out Findlay. Mr. Williams asked if anyone knew that former President Bush, our 41st President, spent the night in Findlay at the Latham's house which is his daughter-in-law's grandparents. He thinks that is kind of neat.

Discussion:

Mayor Mihalik agreed that Mr. Rayl was a great man of this community and had a lot to do with the City's success and had a lot to say about what the future of our community was going to be about. She always appreciated his support as she has tried to serve this community as Mayor. She asked Mr. Smith if he was paid to be here tonight in the presence of Council this evening. Mr. Smith replied he has not been paid yet. Mayor Mihalik asked if he was promised to be paid in the presence of Council this evening. Mr. Smith replied that someone said yes, if you come, I will pay you to be here.

Mayor Mihalik asked if he believes that the first amendment extends to discussing the female anatomy at a City Council meeting. Mr. Smith replied that if it was germane to something that would be talked about in a City Council meeting, but if the discussion was about an insult to someone using words associated with the female anatomy, that would be uncalled for and very much disrespectful. Mayor Mihalik asked in what situation Mr. Smith believes the female anatomy would be referred to in a Council meeting. Mr. Smith replied the only thing he can think of would be if the topic were about health benefits. Mayor Mihalik asked if it would or wouldn't be unusual for a reference to the female anatomy to take place during a City Council meeting. Mr. Smith replied that it would be very unusual.

Mr. Williams from the audience asked if he could respond. Council President Monday replied he may very briefly and then that will be the end of this discussion. Mr. Williams apologized to Mayor Mihalik for disrespecting her. Council President Monday informed Mr. Williams that he needs to address Council and not individuals. Mr. Williams replied that he owes the Mayor an apology because he accused her of something that he found out that she did not do.

Mr. Williams asked to address the subject of the female anatomy that the Mayor asked Mr. Smith about because it is about when he was seven (7) years old, he saved his mother's life because a thirty (30) year old man was kicking his mother in the vagina with his size eighteen (18) shoes. He went and got rags to try to save her life. He had to shoot the guy when he was seven (7) years old to save his mother's life. That is what the Mayor is referring to. He is not ashamed of what he did. He is glad he saved his mother's life. He would save any woman's life, any person's life.

REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENTS:

Officer/Shareholders Disclosure Form from the Ohio Department of Commerce Division of Liquor Control Rod & Cynthia Nelson Enterprises, LLC dba Lucky's Tavern, located at 221 Crystal Avenue Unit A, Findlay, Ohio for a D1, D2, D3, D3A liquor permit. This requires a vote of Council.

John E. Dunbar, Chief of Police – Rod & Cynthia Nelson Enterprises, LLC dba Lucky's Tavern, Findlay, Ohio. A check of the records shows no criminal record on the following:

Cynthia S. Nelson
Rodney J. Nelson

Councilman Harrington moved for no objections be filed, seconded by Councilman Slough. All were in favor. Filed.

Service Director/Acting City Engineer Thomas – 2018 Annual Sewer Televising Project No. 35681100

By authorization of Ordinance No. 2018-019, a bid opening was held for this project on November 21, 2018. Bids were received from five (5) potential contractors with bid amounts ranging from \$106,293.88 to \$140,651.44. Bids were also received for one alternate and ranged from \$5,157.81 to \$44,950.00. The lowest and best bid was received from Taplin Group LLC of Kalamazoo, Michigan. This project is included in the 2018 Capital Improvements Plan. The total project estimate is within the budgeted amount. Previously, an amount of \$20,000 was appropriated to the project for design and startup. At this time, an appropriation for construction, inspection and contingency is needed to complete the project. Even though the bid amounts came in below the estimate, the remaining funds that were estimated in the Capital Plan are now being requested to allow for additional sewer lines to be televised. Legislation to appropriate funds is requested. Ordinance No. 2018-121 was created.

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| FROM: | Sewer Fund | \$ 130,000.00 |
| TO: | 2018 Annual Sewer Televising <i>Project No. 35681100</i> | \$ 130,000.00 |

Discussion:

Councilman Russel asked when they expect to start and how much they are expecting to get done. Service Director/Acting City Engineer Thomas replied that as long as it is where equipment can be ran through, it could start at any time. He is unsure of the footage of what was bid. It is the first time that televising has been bid, so it was unknown how much to throw due to not knowing what prices would come in. As explained in his letter and in looking at what numbers they got, the numbers came in pretty well. He is requesting the full amount that was in the Capital Plan which would allow extra footage and would allow for extra sewer to be televised. Councilman Russel asked if this is in attempt to get ahead of the curve and get everything filmed in the City. Service Director/Acting City Engineer Thomas replied that is correct. It is goes along with the strategic plan two (2) years ago when the road study was done. Last year, the water system was looked at. The sewer system can be seen and can be televised to see what condition it is in. The goal is to get it televised to see what kind of condition it is in to get a ranking on it and know where to focus the money. The City staff with the camera truck have been doing some each year. They have been doing a great job. It takes awhile because there is a lot of sewer to look at. Televising is done to try to speed it up to get caught up. Councilman Russel asked for a summary of what is already on film, what needs to be completed yet, and an estimated time of when it is expected to be done. Service Director/Acting City Engineer Thomas replied it is part of the KPI tracking of how much that is done in a year. Councilman Russel asked if that is in the current Plan KPIs. Mayor Mihalik replied that the current total on the linear feet of what needs to be televised is not within the KPIs that are distributed to the public of what has been done to date. Service Director/Acting City Engineer Thomas added that he will look at what the difference is and will let Council know. Filed.

Service Director/Acting City Engineer Thomas – Blanchard River/Stanford Parkway Waterline Replacement Project No. 35741400

By authorization of Ordinance No. 2014-06, a bid opening was held for this project on November 21, 2018. Bids were received from seven (7) potential contractors with bid amounts ranging from \$173,487.50 to \$234,524.00. The lowest and best bid was received from JDR Excavating, Inc. of Findlay, Ohio. This project is included in the 2018 Capital Improvements Plan. The total project estimate is within the budgeted amount. Previously, an amount of \$25,000 was appropriated to the project for design and startup. At this time, an appropriation for construction, inspection and contingency is needed to complete the project. There is a private utility that was not marked when the survey was completed that will cause the proposed waterline to be moved into the pavement. This will result in a higher project cost. For this reason, the remaining funds estimated in the Capital Plan are now being requested to cover the additional cost. Legislation to appropriate funds is requested. Ordinance No. 2018-122 was created.

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| FROM: | Water Fund | \$ 225,000.00 |
| TO: | Stanford Parkway Waterline Replacement <i>Project #35741400</i> | \$ 225,000.00 |

Filed.

City Planning Commission agenda – December 13, 2018; minutes – November 8, 2018.

Discussion:

Councilwoman Frische noted that there has been a lot of discussion on the rezoning of the Hengsteler Annexation with Bigelow and Crystal, and that the Service Director has a lot of concern about wind turbines. She asked if a wind turbine will be defined because there has never been one in the City before. Service Director/Acting City Engineer Thomas replied that he is not part of Regional Planning, so he does not know what they are planning on doing as far as wind turbines. Councilwoman Frische replied that he is listed on the minutes as being in attendance at the November 8, 2018 meeting. The minutes list the rezone to I-1. Service Director/Acting City Engineer Thomas replied he did not read the minutes and he does not have concerns with wind turbines. Councilwoman Frische asked if they could be put in that area. Service Director/Acting City Engineer Thomas replied that the size of the wind turbines that are out by Valfilm cannot be put in I-1 or I-2 zoned areas as it is currently written. Filed.

City Auditor Staschiak – salary ordinance for non-elected employees

The salary ordinance is typically revised by the Auditor's Office with changes requested by the Mayor and presented to Council for review. Attached is an updated pay ordinance. Changes made to the existing ordinance are highlighted in red. The Mayor's Administration and the Auditor's Office have reviewed the document. Revisions include:

- The maximum amount on all exempt positions with a salary range were raised by 2.36%
- All steps in the hourly ranges and all excepted pay ranges were increased by 2.36%
- All effective dates were changed as needed in each section
- All other changes are highlighted in red

Ordinance No. 2018-123 was created. This will likely need to be amended prior to passage given ongoing discussions. In order to continue the City's regular course of business, it is requested that this ordinance be passed by the first meeting in January.

Discussion:

Mayor Mihalik asked City Auditor Staschiak when the last time was that a committee intentionally looked at the salary ordinance for passage in the following year. City Auditor Staschiak replied he would be happy to look that up and get back to her. Mayor Mihalik asked what specifically did he recommend in terms of changes for his office. City Auditor Staschiak replied that is a great question. He is unsure if Council is aware that the Law Director had challenged his authority to appoint his staff so he had the matter addressed with the Civil Service Commission and was handled with the Civil Service Commission a couple of weeks ago. He referred Council to the minutes of their last meeting for further details. Mayor Mihalik asked what specifically he is referring to in that document change and how many other departments are similarly situated to that language in the salary ordinance. City Auditor Staschiak asked if she is speaking to the clause where the Municipal Court is a separate elected entity under the law and has the ability to bring their employees in as Civil Service exempt. He, as an elected official of the City, has discussed with the Civil Service Commission the ability to bring in his four (4) appointees as exempt which is what is being addressed under Section 27 that added paragraph B which covers that per that meeting. It was discussed in that meeting. Mayor Mihalik asked if he and the Municipal Court are being considered for special consideration relative to employment regarding Civil Service rules in the City of Findlay. City Auditor Staschiak replied he does not think so, but he does not understand her question.

Councilwoman Frische noted that she is confused on what is going on with the cross-examination tonight and asked what page is being talked about. Mayor Mihalik replied that it is the section that refers to the Auditor's Office and the Municipal Court. Councilwoman Frische asked what her specific concern or problem with the Auditor's Office is with this. Mayor Mihalik replied that the Auditor's Office employees would be treated differently than the rest of the City employees. Councilwoman Frische replied they are not City employees and are a separate department. Mayor Mihalik replied they are all City employees under different management. City Auditor Staschiak replied he agrees with that statement that all his employees are City employees, however, under Ohio Law, the issue that was taken up with the Civil Service Commission at their urging of the Law Director, was that his employees should be subject to Civil Service protection and testing. The Civil Service Commission heard his response to that. It was submitted in writing. Based on that response, the Civil Service Commission agreed that per Ohio Revised Code, his four (4) Clerks are appointees of him as the City Auditor and are not subject to Civil Service testing and the Civil Service Commission's jurisdiction. The matter was dismissed based on that. The two (2) issues with this is how they are paid and whether or not they are covered under the Commission. In order to address the issue of how they will be paid, it was discussed in that meeting that there would probably be an addendum to the pay ordinance. This is that addendum. It was also discussed if there is a need to add a fifth (5th) employee to the Auditor's Office, there would then have to be a conversation with the Civil Service Commission with a determination whether that new employee would be the fifth (5th), which is one beyond what is addressed by the Ohio Revised Code. Also, if they would be exempt and a fiduciary of the City Auditor. It is pretty complex and is getting into some weeds unnecessarily. What it says is that if he hires one of those four (4) people, it would then be determined if they are exempt and are a fiduciary per his appointments. If they are not, he will have a conversation with the Civil Service Commission and will make a determination at that time.

Councilman Harrington asked if the Auditor's Office will be an island on their own similar to the Municipal Court and if they will be exempted from the pay ordinance that is before Council tonight. He asked where the pay schedules and job classifications are for those four (4) employees. He asked how Council will be able to review that. City Auditor Staschiak replied that the way it is written, they are given titles out of the pay ordinance so that he has permission to pay them. Currently, they are Clerks I through IV as the ordinance calls for. It is great that Council is asking questions because it goes to his cover letter. Council should be more involved in the salary ordinance, not just in regard to his office, but in regard to the City as a whole as there are a lot of these little issues that come up and need to be discussed. To say his office is an island on its own is not correct. It is not the intent of the sentence. If there is a need to adjust the sentence, he is perfectly happy with that. The intent of the sentence is to say that the Clerks in his office are paid, but are also exempt from the jurisdiction of the Civil Service Commission and are paid according to the schedules that Council provides which is his intent and is what has always been done, and what he intends to do. Councilman Harrington pointed out that it states that those employees shall be subject to the policies of the Auditor and asked what those policies are and if it includes the City Auditor setting the pay range. City Auditor Staschiak replied no. Councilman Harrington asked if the City Auditor is going to subject the Clerks to the pay ranges that are discussed in this document and if the policies will be under the City Auditor's guidelines. City Auditor Staschiak replied there has been a lot of discussion recently. The Administration, the Courts, the Law Director and the different officials are in the process of determining whether they are going to have unified or separate policies. His people properly follow the rules that are set by his office and by him. When they are interviewed, the policies are discussed with them as well as what the rules are and what they are subject to. He is not setting a pay outside of the range of the salary ordinance. They are given a title within the salary ordinance. This all started when he received an email question from the HR Director asking under what section of the pay ordinance the Auditor's Office personnel are paid to which he replied to that. That section talked about the employees being a fiduciary which lead to the Law Director going to the Civil Service Commission and having a conversation that his people are not necessary fiduciaries in the Law Director's opinion. As he understands it and was told by the Commissioners and through the hearing that they had, State Law supersedes the City's salary ordinance in determination whether or not his four (4) employees are subject to the Civil Service rules. He is unsure if this was political or business, and does not rightly care.

The matter was taken care of and disposed of properly with the Commission. It was a good meeting where they got down to business. The adjustment was inserted by the Pay Clerk Carolyn in a way she felt was the best way to handle it and how to word the language, but it seems to have caused some frustration between one (1) or two (2) other elected officials. If Council would like to discuss it more thoroughly, he would be happy to come to a committee meeting and help resolve the matter. Law Director Rasmussen noted that there were hearings, trials and tribulations that have been talked about before the Civil Service Commission, but there was no hearing before the Civil Service Commission on this. He was invited to the Civil Service meeting. HR Director Essex was in attendance. He has attended meetings where they work through the proper classifications of all City employees. It was asked tonight if all those employees are exempt or not. Item I. in Section 2 (pg 1) of the pay ordinance 2018-123 states an additional requirement. It was not his position to tell the City Auditor that he is clearly allowed to have four (4) employees. The issue is if there are any more employees added to the Auditor's Office if the wording in that area would have to be changed. The City Auditor is the one who made it appear as though it was an attack on his people. The question is if that section stands, then the next person may not be appointed which is where those discussions came from. Mayor Mihalik added that there have been lengthy discussions with the Civil Service Commission about which specific positions within the City of Findlay are to be tested and not necessarily appointed. Her concern is that a majority of employees are being treated in one specific way and another set of employees in a different way. As we are all a part of the same team, the rules that currently exist are consistently being applied to everyone. She asked City Auditor Staschiak how many employees are in the Auditor's Office. City Auditor Staschiak replied six (6) including himself. Mayor Mihalik asked how many excluding himself are political appointees. City Auditor Staschiak replied there are four (4) Clerks per the Ohio Revised Code and one (1) Deputy Auditor which is designated as exempt per the salary ordinance. Mayor Mihalik asked if all of the Auditor's Office employee are tested or if they are political appointments per the City Auditor's recommendation. City Auditor Staschiak replied they are as department heads. Mayor Mihalik noted that department heads are different than an entire department. She asked if all of the employees within the Auditor's Office are political appointments by the City Auditor. There are Clerks who are tested and professional positions that are tested. She asked if the City Auditor's Office positions are tested. City Auditor Staschiak replied that if Council would like to explore this further, than he will make himself available for a committee meeting rather than have an open display because it is very important that the City Auditor's employees, as well as the City, recognizes that his staff has a couple of very important functions that they perform. One is preparing the books for audit. It is a primary function. The other is as fiduciaries. Their job is daily, day in and day out, to make sure the funds of the City are properly handled, properly approached, properly spent, properly accounted for and properly receipted. They account for every penny. He, as well as his staff, have personal liability as it has been talked about before as far as the bond. One of the reasons elected officials have appointees is so that they can hire those that they know are going to properly, properly work under the guidelines that they are given by the elected official that they work for. He will answer any further questions in a committee meeting.

Councilwoman Frische feels tonight's discussion has gone a little off rail and she is disappointed how Council's rules of procedure are not being followed by the Mayor and when she is corrected when she is out of line. If there is a problem with those in the Auditor's Office positions or if they are not doing their job properly, there should be a COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE meeting and discuss the entire Ordinance. The salary ordinance is not usually discussed. She has tried to discuss the salary pay ranges in the past, but that discussion does not go very far, but if the Mayor and the Law Director would like to have further discussion, she would be glad to hear them out, but thinks Council needs to maintain procedural rules that they are trying to move on to. Mayor Mihalik replied the employees in the Auditor's Office do a great job. They serve this community in a fair and consistent manner. The issue she has is that in the letter, it makes it sound as though what is being suggested after working with the Auditor's Office is that there is something that is underhanded or something that is not being communicated to the public. Something that isn't being properly vetted. What she finds humorous is that there is specific language in this ordinance that was placed there by the Auditor's staff that completely eliminates the whole reason for Civil Service. The rules that govern Civil Service and how the City employs people have consistently been managed by the Civil Service and the City's HR Director for many years in order to establish fairness and a fair playing field that pertains to not only one specific departments, but many operations at the City of Findlay. The City has tried to be attentive to what the Civil Service Commission has requested. In many instances where previous positions have been appointed, they now have been asked to be tested which is why she has brought this forward and not because she is doubtful of the abilities of the Auditor's employees as they do a fine job, but because the City should be treating every employee consistently. There is a ton of scrutiny that is given to the employees that fall under her umbrella in looking to be effective, efficient and transparent, that it is done across the board. The only reason she brought this up is because it is mentioned in a communications letter to Council and that after working with the Auditor's Office, after policies were developed and placed as sections in the Ordinance pertaining to how employees are paid, now all of a sudden it is brought up that there have been City Council committees who have evaluated this that basically puts five (5) political appointees in charge of managing the City's finances without testing like the majority of the City employees do within the Ordinance. It is not personal. Everyone should be evaluated on the same playing field and not given special consideration to one particular office. City Auditor Staschiak replied that it was wonderful sitting with the Civil Service Commission as he has the utmost respect for them. He has conveyed that respect to them and has known them for many years. The Civil Service Commission, without hesitation, agreed with the way his office is structured and the fact that they are all appointees, was proper, was right, and conformed with Ohio Law as it should. It does sound political to him at this point. If Council would like to discuss this in a committee, he would be happy to talk with them in more detail. There are reasons the State Law is what it is and there is nothing underhanded going on. Nothing, nothing has changed. His letter was very specific. He would love for Council to get more involved with the salary language.

Safety Director Schmelzer noted that the changes to the salary ordinance are relatively mundane. Council can have a committee meeting to discuss this, but it is through the negotiation process that he and the Law Director have spent an immense amount of time on and have determined what the pay rate will be for 2019 which is what needs to be passed by the end of year.

Council President Monday pointed out that if there is a need, in Council's opinion, to have a COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE meeting, that will need to be made by motion under OLD BUSINESS. Filed.

Traffic Commission minutes – October 15, 2018.

Discussion:

Councilman Harrington pointed out that the traffic pattern around Jefferson School has been looked at, so he was surprised that the traffic the other day was backed up clear to Sixth Street for those taking a right onto Washington and then onto Seventh Street. In fact, the Police Officer that came out there questioned if there was a funeral going on because of all the traffic. He asked if anyone has hear anything back from the school. Safety Director Schmelzer replied that he has been involved with the school conversations. The current configuration was presented in previous Traffic Commission meetings where comments were given by the school. Those comments were reviewed by the Planning Commission and forwarded to the Police Department for actual observation. The plan was modified in conjunction with the school. It received a positive reaction from the Traffic Commission. The map is being re-developed for what the signage and the traffic configuration should be like in and around Jefferson School. That has not been committed to the school yet. It is consistent with the conversations and comments that he has had with the school. He does not expect any negative reaction with the plan. The next step is affirmation of the plan and then a timeframe for enacting those changes so that they can adequately notify parents.

Councilman Harrington noted that he is intimately involved with this because he is in that line before and after school. There is going to be a major accident at the corner of Sixth Street and Washington because the traffic backs up on Sixth Street in a no parking zone. The traffic going east is forced into the oncoming lane and then from a stop sign at Washington, motorists are trying to pull out. Safety Director Schmelzer replied that the issue is being looked at. He is aware the problem exists. Everyone drives a car and no one walks to school anymore. He is in the process of developing a plan that will help people move off of Sixth Street onto Washington around the school. He cannot guarantee that he can solve that problem. He cannot promise that he can solve someone sitting in a car waiting in a line to drop their kid(s) off. He is looking at alternatives and is trying to be proactive with this based on not only Councilman Harrington's request, but also other requests. It may even go back to a way they used to do it to see if it works. All options are being looked at. Filed.

Officer/Shareholders Disclosure Form from the Ohio Department of Commerce Division of Liquor Control for Wolfies Group Inc. dba Wolfs Premium Gourmet Nuts, located at 1718 N. Romick Parkway, Findlay, Ohio for a C1 liquor permit. This requires a vote of Council.

John E. Dunbar, Chief of Police – Wolfies Group Inc. dba Wolfs Premium Gourmet Nuts, Findlay, Ohio. A check of the records shows no criminal record on the following:

William W. Wolf Jr.
John P. Grossestreuer
Joseph C. Grossestreuer
Jason A. Parkins

Councilman Slough moved for no objections be filed, seconded by Councilwoman Frische. All were in favor. Filed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

An **AD HOC COMMITTEE** met on November 20, 2018 to continue November 15, 2018, November 7, 2018, October 17, 2018, October 3, 2018 discussions on the Mayor's 2020-2023, City Law Director's 2020-2023, City Auditor's 2020-2023, Council President's 2020-2021, and Councilmember 2020-2021 salaries.

We recommend the committee meet again next week.

Councilman Slough moved to adopt the committee report. Councilman Shindledecker seconded the motion. All were in favor. Filed.

An **AD HOC COMMITTEE** met on November 20, 2018 to continue discussions from the November 1, 2018, October 16, 2018, June 14, 2018, May 8, 2018, April 10, 2018 and February 15, 2018 AD HOC COMMITTEE meetings to review Council's Rules of Procedures for the 2018-2019 Council term.

We recommend continued discussion on Council's Rules of Procedures.

Councilman Slough moved to adopt the committee report. Councilman Harrington seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Councilman Russel updated Council on the AD HOC Committee's progress. The committee is close to being finished. As the report states, they have met throughout the year and have had a lot of good discussion. Some of the things they are still considering are the speaker forms that are filled out prior to the meetings, tweaks to the agenda, and some minor wording issues. It will then be reviewed by the Law Director who has been looking at it throughout the process. Then, the committee will recommend the changes for Council's consideration of adoption. At no time has the committee considered removing the public communications portion of the meeting or shortening the length of time that the public would be allowed to speak. That was never in consideration. The public will still be permitted four (4) minutes per person and they continue to encourage the public to address Council as a whole on issues that Council can do something about. There are some changes that the committee is asking Council to consider (i.e. prohibiting the promotion of political candidates). Someone cannot come before Council stating who to vote for. Another is to restrict the ability to advertise. Someone cannot come before Council promoting a business. Also, a statement about decorum. Prior to this year, Council did not think they would ever need a statement about decorum in the rules and procedures, but this year has proven that it is necessary. Other than that, the rules for communications during a City Council meeting will have no other changes. The draft policy and procedures is available to anyone who wants a copy. The goal is to be done by the end of the year or early January.

City Auditor Staschiak asked if it is still the intent to eliminate NEW AND OLD BUSINESS. For example, he has an item that he would like to discuss tonight that is not legislation and there is no letter on it, but it is something that is very important that he brings up. He asked how he would do so with the new rules that the committee is proposing since there would be no OLD BUSINESS OR NEW BUSINESS category for him to do so. Councilman Russel replied that is in discussion by the committee. Once the agenda is set, any additions to the agenda would be considered an add-on where Council would vote to add it to the agenda at the beginning of the meeting. That topic is still in discussion with the committee.

All were in favor. Filed.

An **AD HOC COMMITTEE** met on November 27, 2018 to continue November 20, 2018, November 15, 2018, November 7, 2018, October 17, 2018, October 3, 2018 discussions on the Mayor's 2020-2023, City Law Director's 2020-2023, City Auditor's 2020-2023, Council President's 2020-2021, and Councilmember 2020-2021 salaries.

We recommend that salary increases be provided for the Auditor, Law Director and Mayor commensurate with the median/average salaries of similar size Ohio cities. Ordinance No. 2018-125 was created.

Councilman Slough moved to adopt the committee report. Councilman Hellmann seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Councilwoman Frische attended a couple of the last committee meetings on this. It is important that the public understands all the work that the committee has done. She brought to the committee's attention that if the Law Director's position is full-time and is a six-figure salary that it should be discussed if that person can work outside the City in that position. There was some discussion about having a committee for that. She asked for an update for the community to understand.

Councilman Hellmann replied by thanking the committee consisting of Councilman Slough and Councilman Shindledecker who gave a great deal of input on this and deliberation. He also thanked the HR Director as well as John Bollman who is the Senior Vice President and Chief Resource Officer for Cooper Tire who was a tremendous asset with the policy and procedures and was there strictly in an advisory capacity and not a member of the committee. He gave great guidance. Councilman Hellmann looked at eighteen (18) comparable-sized cities in populations and budget and also looked at statutory cities and charter cities, as well as some outside the state of Ohio. It was narrowed down to five (5) statutory cities that are very comparable to the City of Findlay, none of which are charter cities. The committee wanted to have the salaries of the three (3) elected officials (Auditor, Mayor and Law Director) in the median or average of the cities they looked at, to which they discovered Findlay's salaries were below that, so the committee recommended the salaries for the Auditor be \$80,200 annually, \$80,300 for the Mayor, and \$120,000 for the Law Director which will put them in the median range that the committee compared them to. The committee also recommended that the Council President and members of City Council not to receive raises as they had received slight raises two (2) years ago. Although they are below average of the cities they looked at, they decided to leave those salaries the same as they are. Instead, their annual increases were duplicated of what they did for City Council and the President of Council two (2) years ago which is to make those increases during those years commensurate with what the City employees receive.

Councilman Shindledecker re-emphasized what Councilman Hellman said about Mr. Essex and Mr. Bollman and agreed that their assistance was needed. He thanked them for their help.

City Auditor Staschiak noted that they pulled the last ordinance for City Council that specifically lists the amounts that Council is to be paid in 2018 and 2019 and then ends. Even if there are no changes to their wages, the ability for him to pay Councilmembers in 2020 and 2021 needs to be addressed. Because of the way the prior ordinance was written, it ends in 2019 because it specifically states what Council will be paid for 2018 and 2019. Something in this ordinance needs to state what Council will be paid in 2020 and 2021. Councilman Hellmann replied if that is the case, it was an oversight.

Safety Director Schmelzer added that he thinks it is a good idea that Council is being paid in accordance with what the rest of the City employees are. He did not know they were doing that and feels it is a good idea. The work that the Law Director that the Safety Director need to get accomplished had been outsourced to Counsel for many years. Regardless if he is doing work outside this municipality or not, the work he is doing inside this municipality is outstanding and goes above and beyond what other Counsel for this City has done for the City in the past.

Councilman Hellmann thanked HR Director Essex for all the heavy lifting and all the research during the deliberations and was a tremendous asset. City Auditor Staschiak also offered the assistance of his office. Copies of the Ohio Municipal League's salary survey for 2013, 2015, and 2017 was provided and was appreciated. The committee also met with the Auditor's Office staff who were very helpful.

Councilman Russel asked if there will be an amended replacement Ordinance that clarifies the City Council pay issue.

All were in favor. Filed.

A **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE** meeting was held on Wednesday, November 28, 2018 to discuss the City's 2019 City Mission contribution. Councilman Slough moved to adopt the committee report. Councilman Harrington seconded the motion. All were in favor.

LEGISLATION:
RESOLUTIONS – none.

ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-068 (*Zoning personnel enforcement rights in right-of-way*) **requires three (3) readings** **tabled after third reading on 8/7/18**
AN ORDINANCE ENABLING THE CITY OF FINDLAY ZONING DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL ENFORCEMENT RIGHTS WITHIN RIGHT-OF-WAY AREAS WITHIN CITY LIMITS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-097 (*credit card policy*) **requires three (3) readings** **tabled after second reading on 10/2/18**
AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE BANK CREDIT CARD POLICY ATTACHED HERETO AND INCORPORATED HEREIN AS EXHIBIT A.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-109 **third reading** **adopted**
(*Binner (Lone Tree Dr) annexation - accept and approve the annexation*) **requires three (3) readings**
AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND APPROVING AN APPLICATION FOR ANNEXATION OF TERRITORY SITUATED IN THE TOWNSHIP OF MARION, COUNTY OF HANCOCK, STATE OF OHIO, AND SITUATED IN THE SOUTHEAST FOURTH (1/4) OF SECTION 9, T1N, R11E, A TRACT OF LAND CONSISTING OF 0.2789 ACRES OF LAND FOR PARCEL A, 0.2777 ACRES FOR PARCEL B, AND 0.277 ACRES OF LAND FOR PARCEL C (HEREINAFTER REFERED TO AS THE BINNER (LONE TREE DRIVE) ANNEXATION).

Councilman Slough moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Hellmann. Ayes: Frische, Harrington, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2018-109 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-110 (*Binner (Lone Tree Dr) annexation - rezone the 3 parcels*) requires three (3) readings **third reading adopted**
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1100 ET SEQ OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO, KNOWN AS THE ZONING CODE BY ZONING THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY AS R1 SINGLE FAMILY LOW DENSITY (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE BINNER (LONE TREE DRIVE) ANNEXATION).

Councilman Slough moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Harrington. Ayes: Harrington, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Frische. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2018-110 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-113 (*year-end appropriations*) requires three (3) readings **third reading tabled adopted during OLD BUSINESS**
AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING AND TRANSFERRING FUNDS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Slough moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Russel.

Discussion:

Councilman Russel noted that there are seven (7) Councilmembers present tonight and asked if this can pass on an emergency with three (3) Councilmembers absent tonight. Law Director replied no.

Councilman Russel moved to table the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Harrington. Ayes: Niemeyer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Frische, Harrington, Hellmann. The Ordinance is tabled.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-114 (*Hengsteler Annexation – accept & approve the annexation*) requires three (3) readings **second reading**
AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND APPROVING AN APPLICATION FOR ANNEXATION OF TERRITORY SITUATED IN THE TOWNSHIP OF MARION, COUNTY OF HANCOCK, STATE OF OHIO, AND SITUATED IN THE SOUTHWEST FOURTH (1/4) OF SECTION 5, T1N, R11E, A TRACT OF LAND CONSISTING OF 36.689 ACRES OF LAND, MORE OR LESS (HEREINAFTER REFERED TO AS THE HENGSTELER ANNEXATION).

Second reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-115 (*Hengsteler Annexation – rezone*) requires three (3) readings **second reading**
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1100 ET SEQ OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO, KNOWN AS THE ZONING CODE BY ZONING THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY AS I-1 LIGHT INDUSTRIAL (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE HENGSTELER ANNEXATION).

Second reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-116 (*606 Howard Street rezone*) requires three (3) readings **second reading**
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1100 ET SEQ OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO, KNOWN AS THE ZONING CODE BY REZONING THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY (REFERRED TO AS 606 HOWARD STREET REZONE) WHICH PREVIOUSLY WAS ZONED “R2 SINGLE FAMILY MEDIUM DENSITY” TO “O1 INSTITUIONS AND OFFICES”.

Second reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-118 (*Lima Ave/Western Ave intersection*) requires three (3) readings **second reading**
AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING AND TRANSFERRING FUNDS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Second reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-119 (*Severance Payout Reserve Fund*) requires three (3) readings **second reading**
AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING AND TRANSFERRING FUNDS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Second reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-120 (*broker services for City health insurance*) requires three (3) readings **second reading**
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY TO ENTER INTO A RENEWAL CONTRACT WITH FIRST INSURANCE GROUP (PREVIOUSLY KNOWN AS CORPORATE ONE BENEFITS) TO PROVIDE BROKER SERVICES AS IT RELATES TO THE CITY OF FINDLAY HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Second reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-121 (*2018 annual sewer televising project*) requires three (3) readings **first reading**
AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-122 (*Blanchard River/Stanford Pkwy waterline replacement project*) requires three (3) readings **first reading**
AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-123 (*non-elected employees salary ordinance*) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading**
AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING JOB CLASSIFICATIONS, PAY RANGES, SALARY SCHEDULES AND OTHER MATTERS THAT MAY AFFECT PAY, FOR ALL NON-ELECTED OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO, AND REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 2017-108, AND ALL OTHER ORDINANCES AND/OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-124 (*Emergency Management Services contract renewal*) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading**
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH HANCOCK COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY TO DEVELOP AN EMERGENCY OPERATION PLAN THAT WILL ENCOMPASS ALL POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS OF HANCOCK COUNTY, PURSUE A PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING PROGRAM, AND COORDINATE THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES OF ALL THE POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS ACCORDING TO THE DUTIES AND REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 5502.27 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-125 (*elected officials salaries*) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading**
AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE SALARIES FOR THE MAYOR, AUDITOR, AND DIRECTOR OF LAW OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO, BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2020 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND REPEALING ALL OTHER ORDINANCES AND/OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT WHERE TO , AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First reading of the Ordinance.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: **OLD BUSINESS**

Councilwoman Frische pointed out that the Service Director/Acting City Engineer mentioned that he finished videoing the waterlines. Service Director/Acting City Engineer Thomas replied waterlines cannot be videoed. They finished their study on the waterlines. Councilwoman Frische asked if it is something that the WATER AND SEWER Committee can review and get a presentation on so they understand where the waterlines are at. Service Director/Acting City Engineer Thomas replied yes. Councilwoman Frische noted that she will work on setting up a committee meeting for that. She pointed out that there is an oversizing project on the north side that she would like to look at before the end of the year. Service Director/Acting City Engineer Thomas replied they are not looking at doing anything until spring and is waiting on cost information from them.

Councilman Harrington asked to revisit Ordinance No. 2018-113. He asked for an explanation on why it was tabled. Law Director Rasmussen replied that the rule is actually two-thirds (2/3). He was thinking it was being passed on an emergency which would require three-fourths (3/4) rule. The actual rule is two-thirds (2/3) which is seven (7) and it can be passed with seven (7).

Councilman Russel moved to lift Ordinance No. 2018-113 from the table, seconded by Councilman Harrington. Ayes: Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Frische, Harrington, Hellmann, Niemeyer. The Ordinance is lifted from the table. Councilman Harrington moved to adopt the Ordinance. Councilman Russel pointed out that the motion to adopt has already been done.

Discussion:

City Auditor Staschiak noted that there will be another Ordinance similar to this at the next meeting. It is about a third (1/3) of the clean up items that are needed for audit at the end of every year, so at the next City Council meeting, there will be quite a few of them. It is needed to make sure their books are in compliance with the State. Councilman Russel asked if that Ordinance needs to be adopted at the next City Council meeting. City Auditor Staschiak replied yes it does. Councilman Russel noted that there needs to be eight (8) Councilmembers at that meeting in order to pass the Ordinance on an emergency.

Ayes: Shindledecker, Slough, Frische, Harrington, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Russel. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2018-113 and is hereby made a part of the record.

Councilman Harrington informed Council on the history of requests similar to the one from the City Mission. An AD HOC Committee was formed back in 2016 to discuss the Arts Partnership's request for funding as well as the Children's Historical Museum. The committee met three (3) times for that. Also in 2016, another AD HOC Committee met to discuss the bed tax distribution where they recommended that the City allocate ten percent (10%) of the hotel/motel bed tax revenue not to exceed seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) for 2017. If a process for the applicants is not developed and approved by City Council, the money will revert back to the General Fund. That motion was adopted where it was approved for the City to give up to seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) if Council came up with some criterion for those seeking funds from the City. That AD HOC Committee met five (5) times with no recommendation on any criterion on any distribution of that seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000). At that time, that amount reverted back to the General Fund. Now, the City Mission has requested a similar situation with a demonstrated need, but there is no process on how to differentiate this need from the need of others. He personally feels the City Mission is a needed service in this community that he supports whole-heartedly, but it has to go back to earlier discussions that what is fair for one has to be fair for all. He asked if an AD HOC Committee needs to be formed again to determine if the City is willing to give a portion of its revenues to organizations similar to this. He is just opening the conversation to see what the Mayor and Councilmembers want to do as it has spurred some thoughts from the community as a problem that some may not have been aware of that Findlay does have homeless. The City Mission is the only place for those in need can show up at and be welcomed, given a hot meal, a shower and a bed. He just wants Council to know that it is a topic that has been looked at in the past and that it may be time to look at it again.

Councilman Hellmann concurred with what Councilman Harrington has said. He has met with Joy Barger and toured the facility and saw how the place operates. They provide a tremendous service back to this community. His only concern is if it is done for one entity if it has to be done for others. Resurrecting that AD HOC Committee to set some criteria on who would be able to go through that process and to come up with some criteria on a certain percentage of the bed tax that the City receives. The committee talked with the Better Business Bureau that was going to do the vetting and the analysis of the requests that were received mainly because the City does not have the expertise or experience that they have. They do that when various entities come in and want to put on a program, a parade, or a function for the City and ask for funds to do so. The committee met with them on two (2) occasions and he is unsure why it never proceeded. He agrees with Councilman Harrington that the AD HOC Committee should get back together and move forward.

Councilman Russel noted that he was the chair of that committee and believes Councilman Hellmann was also on the committee, as well as former Councilman Klein. That organization was only looking at organizations looking to provide cultural and entertainment functions. The Convention and Visitors Bureau would have been hard pressed to vet an issue like that. This issue is similar to the Raise the Bar request that the City considered a year or so ago which resulted in Councilman Wobser being put on the Raise the Bar Board. The reason that AD HOC Committee did not go forward was because the committee had trouble coming to an agreement on how they wanted to proceed. The matter just died on the vine. When a new term of Council started, per Council's rules, an AD HOC Committee dissolves. The committee could be resurrected with the majority of Council wanting it, but he does not see this in the same light as the previous funding the City provided the Arts Partnership. This is a different type of request.

Mayor Mihalik pointed out that this type of activity is essentially emergency housing assistance. Back when she was doing grant administrative work for the Hancock Regional Planning Commission, it is an area where Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) are the key players. The City is not a position to resolve all of the financial issues relative to the services that the City Mission provides, but that there are eligible activities within CDBG that goes towards emergency housing of this type. There are a lot of cities, some are direct recipients from Housing and Urban Development (HUD) or if they are a pass through entity where they get their money in a different way (i.e. the Federal Government gives the money to the State, then the State gives the money to the City). She believes CDBG money could possibly assist the City Mission through a formula allocation or through existing RLF balance that the City could provide an eligible opportunity, not necessarily associated with the General Fund, but associated with a program that is meant for a low to moderate income population. She has not had an opportunity for a discussion with the Hancock Regional Planning Commission Director. That office administers the RLF and the CDBG program. She is unsure if the City could designate a portion of the CDBG formula to help support the City Mission in its endeavor. Council should determine what the City's role is and what the "Findlay Formula" has provided in the past. It has been a combination of the public, private, and non-profit sector working together to be successful in any endeavor. The City relies heavily on the private sector to fund a lot of things relative to social services. She does not feel it is a good or bad thing for the City to get involved in this, but that the City does things best when they are done together. It might be worthwhile to assess what the City's resources are as a community and what they have access to relative to CDBG funding. The Community Home Investment Program (CHIP) grant includes some CDBG funds and some Home Investment Partnership Program funds that are used to help residents with emergency home repairs, temporary rental assistance, down payment assistance, Habitat for Humanity, etc. Council may not be aware of those programs relative to the CDBG program in Findlay. There may be an opportunity for the City to evaluate what is utilized by the Community Development Block Grant's (CDBG) money. She will look into that and work with the Hancock Regional Planning Commission (HRPC) to see if there is a formula allocation, a one-time payment to help the City Mission get back on their feet, or if it is a RLF grant for an eligible activity. Specific General Fund money is not the only resource that the City has at hand. She agrees with Councilman Russel that this is a completely different consideration from what was talked about relative to enhancing tourism to the resident and visitor business in Findlay. It is not about giving money to the Balloon Fest, Boogie on Broadway or Rib-off. It is about what the City can do to provide an essential service. If someone does not have a place right, wrong, or indifferent, to lay their head when they are in crisis, they are going to find other places to do so that may be appropriate in Findlay. She will take a look at other resources related to this type of assistance. The City Mission has not specifically looked at HUD funding in the past which is a resource and a tool that can be used to assist them in what they are trying to provide to those who are in need in our community.

Councilman Russel noted that the CDBG option was something he had never considered. It could be a topic for a future COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE meeting or some type of report to Council to become more familiar with it. He would be available to assist with that effort if Council is interested. He recommended doing so, so that immediate assistance could be given.

Councilman Harrington noted that he too would be available to assist with it. As the Council representative for the RLF, it would be in his realm. Criticism from the public has been that the City Mission is a faith-based organization. The specific program that they are seeking funds for is not considered a faith-based program under their umbrella. The only other homeless shelters are in Toledo and Lima. The City Mission is the only homeless shelter in our area. Residents are not required to go to chapel, but are given a bed, a meal, a shower, and are allowed the opportunity, but not required to attend chapel if they show up on their doorstep.

Councilman Slough asked if the discussion at an AD HOC Committee will be just on the City Mission or if it will also other organizations such as CASA, Open Arms, Hope House, etc. that he feels provides invaluable services. Mayor Mihalik replied that is an interesting point. She asked what type of social service Council and/or the Administration want to support and if it is even their role to do so. Those are good questions to ask as we grow as a community. Larger communities are responsible for maintaining those services and/or contributing to those services. The City of Findlay is heavily dependent on the private sector to be philanthropic in a lot of ways. Our tax dollars are utilized to do a lot of different things. Tax dollars at a City level go to one area and tax dollars at the County level go to different activities. At the State level, it provides assistance through Job and Family Services. She asked at what point does the City want to be supportive of the agencies that provide critical services to our constituents. The City Mission is not necessarily the most important, but they has risen to the point of our attention because of their financial struggles, but there still are others. The Administration welcomes that input. She asked where the most urgent need is. She asked if it is just emergency housing services or if it is domestic rape and crisis services. Open Arms demand for services has grown dramatically this year. There are a lot of social service entities that are that way. They City needs to be honest with what it can and cannot support, what it feels is the most critical, and where it can play a vital strategic role in their service delivery.

Councilman Russel noted that the STRATEGIC PLANNING Committee is looking at putting together a process to get feedback and put together a process on these types of things. Councilman Hellmann also is willing to serve on the committee.

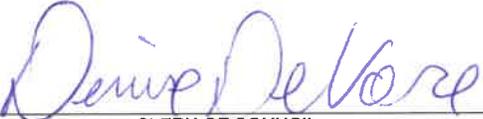
Councilman Monday pointed out that discussions have been about a committee that is non-existent. If there is a motion and a second with the majority wanting an AD HOC Committee, that can be done and then Councilman Russel would appoint the members of that AD HOC Committee. Councilman Russel replied that he is not suggesting an AD HOC Committee be formed for this. It can be examined with the Mayor and Hancock Regional Planning Commission. He was just offering himself as a willing participant in keeping Council informed. He does not think this is an appropriate topic for an AD HOC Committee.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilman Russel made a motion to excuse the absence of Councilman Wobser, Councilman Watson and Councilwoman Ostrander, seconded by Councilman Slough. All were in favor. Filed.

Councilman Russel moved to adjourn into executive session to discuss Police and Fire Union negotiations at 8:31 pm. Seconded by Councilman Harrington. Ayes: Frische, Harrington, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough. Councilman Harrington moved to adjourn out of executive session and back into regular session at 9:21pm. Seconded by Councilman Shindledecker. All were in favor. Filed.

Council President Monday adjourned Council at 9:22 pm.



CLERK OF COUNCIL



PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL