

# FINDLAY CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

REGULAR SESSION

MAY 7, 2013

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

**PRESENT:** Collette, Monday, Murray, Nichols, Schedel, Slough, Spence, VanDyne, Ward

**ABSENT:** none

President Pro-Tem Ward opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silent prayer. He asked that during the silent prayer that we remember Council President Slough and the passing of his father.

Councilman Schedel moved to adjourn into executive session to discuss negotiations of collective bargaining. Mayor Mihalik, Service-Safety Director Schmelzer, Law Director Rasmussen, and Attorney Gary Johnson were invited to attend. Councilman Monday seconded the request. Ayes: Monday, Murray, Nichols, Schedel, Slough, Spence, VanDyne, Ward, Collette. Council adjourned into executive session at 7:33pm. Council reconvened into regular session at 8:30 pm. Councilman Nichols moved to adjourn out of executive session. Councilman Collette seconded the motion. Ayes: Murray, Nichols, Schedel, Slough, Spence, VanDyne, Ward, Collette, Monday.

President Pro-Tem Ward made a motion for Council to accept the Fact Finder's Report between the City and the Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association (OPBA) which is represented for the City of Findlay Police Department. Councilman Nichols seconded the motion. Aye: Schedel, Slough, Spence, VanDyne, Ward, Collette, Monday, Murray, Nichols. The report is adopted and ratified by Council. President Pro-Tem Ward noted that other things have to happen with the Police Department, but Council appreciates what they and the Administration have done with the negotiations. It is Council's hope that by ratifying the report, our Police Department will see that Council is in favor of some of the items they have agreed to.

President Pro-Tem Ward noted that the next item on tonight's agenda will be discussion from Council on various issues, and also Oral Communications for tonight will be tied into those discussions as they deal with the same topic of our Fire Department. Councilmembers received a letter from Mayor Mihalik on some of the possibilities of the Firefighter layoffs and the strength of the Fire Department. The floor was then opened up for Council to discuss these topics, followed by oral presentations from those in the audience who have requested to speak, and then more comments from Councilmembers if they so choose.

Discussion:

Councilman Murray noted that he would like to hear public comments first and then Council will respond to them.

## ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

### Marc Washington – Findlay Firefighters

Marc Washington came before Council to discuss the necessity of the Firefighters. He has been a Findlay resident for fifteen (15) years since the merger of Marathon and Ashland, which brought him to the area. On the Findlay Fire Fighter's web page, it states their mission is to provide the highest level of service to our community in all times of disaster. This mission is accomplished by the dedication and preparation of our Firefighters. A disaster for Mr. Washington occurred on September 1, 2012. While taking his blood pressure at the Rite Aid Pharmacy on Trenton Avenue, he experienced a cardiac arrest (his doctor described it as a cardiac death attack). The pharmacy called the Fire Department who responded immediately, assessed his condition, resuscitated him and transported him to Blanchard Valley Hospital. By the time he arrived at the hospital, he had two (2) heart attacks and three (3) strokes. There was very little expectation of him surviving or even making a meaningful recovery. Two (2) months prior to his incident, Blanchard Valley Hospital received a grant to purchase a machine that performs a procedure called therapeutic hyperthermia (TH). This is a medical treatment that lowers a patient's body temperature helping to minimize organ damage, especially brain damage caused by cardiac arrest. Brain damage is the most common cause of death in patients with out of hospital cardiac arrest. This is why immediate care is essential for successful cardiac treatment and recovery. After what seemed like a long rehabilitation process and through the grace of God, Mr. Washington is on the path to recovery. The healing process for him and so many in our community starts with the Fire Department. If they hadn't done their job in a professional and timely manner, he would not be standing here today. He is disappointed that Council is considering significant cuts to the Fire Department's budget that would result in the closing of Firestation #4 and the elimination of several staffing positions. Since many of the factors that led to the budget proposal recommendation do not have the impact that was originally thought, it is his hope that Council will prioritize public safety and reverse this decision and consider the life and death impact the decision could have on the future. He asked Council to take into consideration someone who had the same cardiac arrest condition he had. Someone who is in an area that is not covered because of resource constraints will experience a delayed response because of lack of staffing. The men and women who represent the Fire Department are true servants. They do not seek attention, a thank you, or accolades. In most cases, they do not know what the final result of the work they started or done. They just do their job and do it well. He recognized Nick Scoles and Derek Welch as the two (2) Firefighters who attended to him that evening. He thanked them for their commitment and thanked the other nameless Firefighters who respond to emergency calls. He thanked them for their dedication. He thanked them for being First Responders to life-threatening conditions. He thanked them for using their training to save lives and being true heroes. His grandchildren are extremely grateful. He thanks God every day for putting and orchestrating the resources of this community for his benefit and the benefit of others. He suspects that there are numerous citizens throughout the community who would give the same expression of appreciation for the Fire Department and the value they bring to make our community safe, which is their mission.

Discussion:

Councilwoman Spence thanked Mr. Washington for coming to Council tonight and sharing his story.

### John Bibish – Findlay Firefighters

John Bibish passed out handouts to Councilmembers and the Administration. He has been a Certified Public Account (CPA) for over thirty (30) years. Prior to his retirement in 2009, he spent the last thirty (30) years as an employee of the City of Toledo where he was the Commissioner of Accounts for twelve (12) years, the Director of Finance for five (5) years, and finished his career as the Commissioner of Budgeting for five (5) years. He is before Council now because he was asked to take a look at the current public information that is available regarding the proposed layoff to see if there is anything he could glean from it that might help Council and the Administration make a better informed decision than what might be available at the present time. The argument at the present time is that the current level of revenue does not allow the City of Findlay to sustain a budget at the current level without a reduction in staff which can be persuasive, however, context is everything. The first chart of his handouts shows what the City's revenues were estimated at for years 2008-2011 and the exact revenues during that comparable period. As the chart shows, there is a wide swing every year. Since 2012 ended favorably, it is reasonable to assume that something similar existed in year 2012. He asked Council if they are comfortable at the present time if the estimates are tight enough to take a reduction in force. He assumes the answer is maybe. He asked if the City of Findlay at the present time or in the foreseeable future can continue to be at the current level of services. The implications are no. The reason why is what is important. That question was answered by taking a look at how much is in the cupboard. This presumes that there isn't anything in the cupboard. He feels this deserves a closer look. The third handout is a report on fund equity of the general fund for the City of Findlay for year ending December 31, 2011. He noted that all his information came from the City's annual audited financial reports. This report comes from footnote 15

which is consistent with the body of the financial report. It shows the composition equity for the general fund. He highlighted in the column to right all general fund equities that are susceptible for other uses. It was restricted for other purposes, so significant that the best definition given for it was other. In addition to it, there are also months that are assigned. This is a much lower level of a reservation which is administrative in nature. There is also an unassigned amount of six million one hundred thousand dollars (\$6,100,000.00). He proposes that December 31, 2012, working with under the assumption that the City ended the year with a surplus, there is at least an additional eight million one hundred thousand dollars (\$8,100,000.00) available. He noted that the companion fund and the income tax administration fund is a feeder to the general fund. For December 31, 2011, there was a committed fund balance of four million six hundred thousand dollars (\$4,600,000.00). This is money available for use. It meets all the criteria for realizable and available. It just didn't get transferred to the general fund for whatever reason which is okay, but it is money. Using the budget document for the year 2013, it clearly shows that in 2012 and 2013 that the revenue estimates for the income tax administration fund shows surpluses of two million seven hundred thousand dollars (\$2,700,000.00) and one million eight hundred thousand dollars (\$1,800,000.00) respectively which is an additional nine million two hundred thousand dollars (\$9,200,000.00). His last handout shows what the City has as a whole with a strong suggestion that at the present time, the City of Findlay has potentially an addition seventeen million four hundred thousand dollars (\$17,400,000.00) available for use. While he does not suggest what the use is, he suggests that it is there and needs to be taken into consideration when looking at whether there is the ability to pay, and to take into consideration as to what the potential cost of the layoffs would be.

#### Discussion:

Councilman Schedel reiterated that Mr. Bibish stated the City needs to reduce its staff and cannot pay for our current level of service, the numbers that Mr. Bibish presented to Council are counter to what he stated. He asked Mr. Bibish to explain. Mr. Bibish replied that it is evident that there are significant additional resources at hand in the City of Findlay's general fund that is available for other uses. Councilman Schedel then asked Auditor Staschiak if he concurs. Auditor Staschiak replied that he cannot comment to the context that Mr. Bibish's numbers were taken from. The majority of the numbers being quoted were prior to his tenure with the City. The statement that there is seventeen million dollars (\$17,000,000.00) of cash laying around in the CIT Fund is ludicrous. In 2012, the City changed how funds are allocated out of the CIT Fund, so it would not accrue in that fund on a cash basis. It is important to note that the books, the CAFR (Comprehensive Annual Financial Report), the way the City accounts for its money is done on an accrual basis in compliance with State standards. The numbers that Council regularly deals with their budget are on a cash basis year to year. They need to reconcile at the State level. This is not something the City can control locally. We are encouraged to book on an accrual basis and are required to run on a cash basis. We allocate the money that is in the CIT Fund on a monthly basis every thirty to forty (30-40) days once the books are closed. He receives an email from the City's Deputy Auditor/CPA instructing him when the books are closed and that he can do the allocation. He personally calculates the allocation and has never in his tenure left money anywhere near the amount Mr. Bibish has stated and he is offended by the suggestion. Mr. Bibish replied that all the information he has presented came out of annual audited financial reports. He did not use any judgment other than to present it on the reports he has handed out tonight. In addition to the budget question that was raised, he notes that it is interesting that comments would be made because in the CAFR we represent, we budget on an accrual basis. This might just be bean counters arguing with bean counters, but is an important difference. The fact of the matter is that the information that he used was from the CAFR and should be reliable. His representation that there is seventeen million four hundred thousand dollars (\$17,400,000.00) is not entirely accurate because he is not capable of knowing the exact numbers for 2012 because he does not have them, which is why it is noted as additional potential equity. President Pro-Tem Ward replied that while he appreciates knowing what Mr. Bibish just stated, his concern is that his numbers are an estimate by Mr. Bibish and that there is the reality of where things are and what the City has to work with. He has every intention of knowing where the money is. The amount of money that Mr. Bibish states is accruing in different accounts is just that. They are in different accounts with specific responsibilities. If the City has the amount Mr. Bibish is stating, there would be no reason for the talks tonight because we'd write a check for anything we needed. We cannot have that kind of money lying around anywhere in which we would be deficient spending our budget this year over a million dollars (\$1,000,000.00). When he took a statistics course, he learned that you can make numbers say anything you want them to say, but in reality they are what they are and are what we have to work with.

Mayor Mihalik thanked Mr. Bibish for bringing this information to Council and the Administration's attention. It is always good to have an extra set of eyes looking at things that we look at on a daily basis that do not always seem to provide this sort of information to us. She appreciates Mr. Bibish taking the time to come to Findlay to explain his findings. In the very near future, she would like to have the Appropriations Committee evaluate Mr. Bibish's information and determine if it is in fact in the CAFR and is in fact true as stated, then it is something that needs to be explained in further detail from our finance officer. She asked Auditor Staschiak if he would be willing to do so that the Administration could have a better understanding of the information Mr. Bibish states comes directly from our CAFR. She would greatly appreciate it because serious decisions are being made and it is important to have all the correct information.

#### Dwayne Chambers – Findlay Firefighters

Mr. Chambers came before Council with concerns about his community. As he has told Council before, he loves this city and this community. He has spent his life here. He has opportunities to go other places and make more money, but he and his wife sat down, thought and prayed about it. They decided to stay and have never regretted staying. Around that same time, he opened up an office on Tiffin Avenue where he is an agent and a CPA. He remained in that business for many years before retiring and then went back into business mainly out of necessity due to a number of events in his life that were financial in nature. Like a lot of others, he lost a lot of money in a retirement plan and also in an investment plan. He also lost a son in death. It has not been easy for him for the last ten to fifteen (10-15) years with most of the difficult events in the last five to six (5-6) years. We have a nation that is crumbling. We have some very difficult problems. There are a few things that are still coming that most of us are not aware of. When individuals come to his office, they ask him what he thinks is happening to which he tells them he does not know just like the eighty percent (80%) of those who drive by his office on Tiffin Avenue do not know what is going on. The reason they do not know what is going on is that they are not paying attention or are not getting the word that is being suppressed. There are only a few places that you can really give serious attention to any matters at all that are happening in this world anymore, therefore he is very selective and careful on how he gets his information as there are serious problems coming down from the Federal Government and State Government to our Local Government. As these problems happen, we will have to look at the city income tax. Mr. Chambers spent twenty-eight (28) years on the review board for the city income tax when it was in its infancy. He spent many hours in the Council Office when Marty Stelzer was Council Clerk. He would ask her for copies of certain documents that she would graciously provide and he would pay her for them. On more than one occasion, Marty told him that he couldn't possibly pay for them as she saw the hours he spent in that office to which he replied it is fair because if he ever wanted to say anything publicly or run for a public office, no one could ever accuse him of taking a dime because the next dime he gets from the City will be the first dime he ever takes. He has paid for all paper copies he has taken from the Council Office. He still loves this city and the people in it, he is not leaving it, and he is here tonight out of love for this city. In November, the voters spoke and voted on what they felt we could afford. He does not have a problem with raising the income tax when he sees it is right to do so. The City of Findlay Income Tax Administrator Andrew Thomas knows this as he has spent many years with him. He has also spent many years with the City's previous Administrations that preceded Andrew, so he knows well what it is all about. Many times for the City, he defended them for the right that it took in the city income tax. While there may be many who lose a job, he has lost a lot of things and has seen a lot of others who have lost their jobs which is sad. What is really sad is if we lose the City, we will have a very serious problem on our hands. Then what will we do? We all need to get used to some new budgets and new living requirements. The State Auditor gave his report about where he felt we were and has clearly spoken as to whether or not we needed the additional Fire Department at this time. It is time for that Firestation and time for Findlay citizens to vote. It is time for everyone to do their job. He appreciates everyone on Council and the Administration. He is not being argumentative. He supports them one hundred percent (100%), but asks that they recall and vote your conscious.

Discussion:

Councilman Nichols thanked Mr. Chambers for coming before Council.

President Pro-Tem Ward noted that the letter from the Mayor that was sent to Council regarding the possible reduction of Firefighter layoffs will now be addressed. Letters to twenty (20) Firefighters have been sent out informing them of their layoff if Council chooses to go that direction. A couple of things were brought out tonight that Council needs to think about. One being presented by a couple of individuals here tonight, as well as himself, which is something Council has to be certain about which is if the revenue stream is going. This is something Council talked about that is going to be here to be able to employ and keep people or add more people. Right now, that revenue stream as we see it looks to be doing a little better. The first quarter of our income tax was down over three percent (3%), but has seen a one percent (1%) increase this last month. This is not proof that a substantial amount of money will be available as others have said there will be. There are some other uncertainties. There are many negotiations going on right now with our unions dealing with questionable labor costs. We have to realize that some of the Firefighters that we have been talking about have also been hired under a grant. He is unsure if it was wise to hire under a grant. We did it hoping that there would be a complete turnaround of the economy so that we would not have to lay off six (6) Police Officers, anyone in our Engineering Department, our Recreation Department, our Computer Services, etc. Layoffs have affected every one of our departments. Council has to decide tonight what to do and what direction to go. If the decision is made not to lay off twenty (20), we have to remember that it is temporary and should not be something we will say that we'll keep a certain amount of Firefighters for propriety, instead we need to look at them, as an Appropriations Committee Chairman, if we do decide to keep Firefighters, he would not recommend appropriating any money at this time, but instead monitor it and add money as Council sees needed or as they see money coming in from the Income Tax Department as we realize that both the Police and Fire take up a large portion, over fifty percent (50%) of our income tax coming in. He asked for Council's comments on this issue.

Discussion:

Councilman VanDyne asked if either the Mayor or the Service-Safety Director could briefly explain what the proposal the Mayor made was for the benefit of everyone in attendance or watching on television tonight. Mayor Mihalik replied that she will frame the discussion to help better understand what the situation is. Last week, she sent Councilmembers a letter indicating that she felt it was prudent to revisit the staffing decisions that were decided or were planned to be effective May 12, 2013. Several discussions have taken place on staffing in the Fire Department with the SAFER grant and the amount of Firefighters needed on a shift. An eloquent presentation was given by members of the Fire Department giving a passionate plea on what they thought at minimum was what the City needed in order to adequately protect the City. Given the fact that things are changing, that fact remains that compelled not only herself to advocate the renewal of the quarter percent (.25%), and that some Councilmembers thought we needed a half percent (.50%), the data was compelling enough that we needed to make a change because we would run out of money soon. We would not necessarily run out of money in 2013, but would be hit hard in 2014. Given the fact that we had a great end of the year partly due to Department Heads reducing money out of their budgets, we were still ridiculed for it, but we saved money and didn't spend money that was unnecessary. We also had some amazing returns in the last quarter of 2012 and the beginning of 2013 which have proven successful. You do not have to be an Economist to take a look around and read the headlines of our local newspaper to recognize that corporations here are doing very well. Findlay has the fourth largest company in the state of Ohio that potentially, by their own statement, could be the number one revenue driving company in the state of Ohio next year. Things are definitely changing in a very good way, but as the information changes and as the data becomes a little more clearer, it is prudent to revisit the discussion and make sure that we are making decisions based upon the best information we had at the time. Our plans are fluid in that we can adjust them as we plan for the worst case scenario that has not come to fruition. If we bury our heads in the sand and not address the situation that is before us, it will not necessarily make us good stewards of taxpayer dollars or good leaders or elected officials. Her recommendation was, at least temporarily, that we forgo nine (9) of the proposed twenty (20) layoffs and see how our revenue is towards the end of 2013, and then prepare for 2014. We have already begun in earnest the preparation of 2014 budgets to see how much keeping those nine (9) on would cost the City, and that what we would need to maintain anything beyond that. She agrees with President Pro-Tem Ward with the two (2) items that have been discussed from the beginning of the year which is if we can see a consistent sustainable stream of revenue beyond what the six million dollars (\$6,000,000.00) was that we were talking about last year even towards temporary budget time. We also discussed if we can do something through contracts that help us rein in long term costs similar to what was done both with the Sewer and Police Department contracts. We have enough money at least in the personnel services line item to not appropriate any additional funds now, but that day will come very quickly. Keep in mind that it may be three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000.00) for this year, but it could be an additional one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) for next year. These items need to be kept in mind when making our decision. Councilman VanDyne replied that he represents the second ward in Findlay, and their concern is Firestation #4. He asked if by keeping nine (9) Firefighters, if Firestation #4 will be kept open at least during this interim period. Mayor Mihalik replied it will be kept open.

Councilman Nichols agrees with keeping Firestation #4 open as it is one of our nicer/newer Firestations, and that keeping the staffing levels of fourteen (14) is ideal under the situation we have right now. He believes there is nothing we can do now long term until the union contract with the Firefighters is finalized. Once that is done, we can figure out where to go from there and what our costs will be.

Councilman Schedel was glad that Mr. Washington said what he did during the oral communications portion of tonight's meeting because he feels this Council has, from a historical point of view, prioritized public safety during the entire tenure he has been on Council. Council made some very difficult decisions in 2008 when the downturn first occurred to forego resurfacing our streets and cleaning up our curbs and sidewalks to keep the number of Firefighters in place that we had in place. After the defeat at the polls in November last year, it was a game changer. We did have an extraordinary influx of money from our departments saving funds, plus having a successful company in town that had a great year, but he is unsure that the City has an improved economic forecast. He believes all Councilmembers would agree that their top priority is to the men and women in the room tonight, and also in the Police force, is to try to create a better situation with our streets as that is public safety too. He thanked everyone for attending Council tonight and noted that this is a very difficult decision for them, but is one that they will make.

Councilwoman Spence thanked everyone for attending tonight's City Council meeting and she appreciates the Fire Department's presentation they put together explaining the need for having fourteen (14) Firefighters per shift. She also appreciates the Administration's hard work and diligence in going through the budget to try to foresee the financials that we have for this year and next year to help Council makes some sound decisions on how to move forward.

Councilman Murray also appreciates everyone's input and the Firefighters coming out a few weeks ago and presenting to Council as well as their passion for their service and their professionalism. Mr. Washington, one of our oral communications, did a great job of telling us what the Firefighters do very well. These decisions are not about any of that, but are about trying to find the right balance between fiscal responsibility and safety within our community. We would love to have eighteen (18) or twenty (20) per shift, but our voters have told us that they do not want to pay for it, so Council has to make some tough decisions. The recommendation that the Mayor has presented is a fair compromise. When the Firefighters came to present to Council, they told us that the recommended standard is fourteen (14) which would be a better standard than the twenty (20) layoffs. They convinced him that evening when fourteen (14) per shift was given as the right number. Since that time, he has been feeling like that is where we should be. Fire Chief Lonyo says that means that we have to layoff eleven (11) leaving nine (9), six (6) of those are SAFER grant funded, so it is a difference between that and five (5). He agrees with the Mayor's recommendation. He feels it is fair, and that there are twenty (20) families who have a layoff notice in their hands and want to know what the future holds. Unfortunately, the best we can do right now is to say that nine (9) of them will not be kept for a time. Our prayer is that the economy will continue to improve and the community will continue to improve, and we will continue to be fiscally responsible so that we can maintain that nine (9) in the future. When he looked at yearly budgets, they have always been a nice gentle slope into the last three (3) or four (4) with very erratic behavior. We can look at good indicators today, but as you well know, that could change very quickly depending on world events. We need to be prudent, but we also need to give our Firefighters some reassurance that we do support them and do want them to continue their service.

Mayor Mihalik noted that she appreciates everyone's attendance tonight. If Council is in favor of moving forward with the proposal she has submitted to them, she is then asking for Council to help her to decipher the numbers that are in front of them. She would like to know more about the information that Mr. Bibish (oral communications) handed out tonight. It is very important to continually analyze what comes in and what goes out. Council and the Administration are in charge of helping to build and spend money on the expense side. The other side of the equation is the revenue side which seems to be somewhat of a moving target. She is asking for Council's help moving forward. Together, they will decide on what is best for the City. The majority of the focus has been on the Fire Department because of the situation we have in front of us, but we have to keep in mind that we also have other departments, particularly our Police Department that has been decimated. While they have not been laid off, they are still at lower levels than they were prior to 1986. She listens to the radio (scanner) and hears what they deal with on a daily/nightly basis. It is incredible to her the amount of professionalism and energy that they have to expend to make sure that all of us are safe. Tonight is mainly a Fire Department discussion, but it is a City-wide discussion. It is something we have to try and find the suite spot with as we continue to move forward. We all know that public safety is extremely important to us, but is not the only thing we do here. We will continue to work together to try to find that suite spot.

Auditor Staschiak thanked everyone in the room and assured them that as the revenues come in, we will continue to report them regularly, correctly, openly, and will continue to provide Council with monthly reports. He is excited to learn that the Mayor wants to learn more about how revenues work as it will benefit us all. He promised that he will make every attempt and do everything he needs to do to make sure as things get better, stay the same, or if they decline, he will keep everyone informed exactly how much money is coming in. On the Administrative side, those things are available to us on a daily basis, so at any point in time, if anyone in the community is asking how a particular revenue is, whether it be hotel/motel tax, income tax, revenue on bicycle licenses, etc., he encourages them to contact the City Auditor's Office and they will provide them with the information as it is important the public be informed. We want the information out there as widely as possible.

Councilman Collette added that the amount of people at tonight's meeting, as well as the Administration, speaks to what our community is which is extremely impressive. In the fourteen (14) years that he has been on Council, he has not witnessed three (3) back to back speakers give presentations to Council. Mr. Washington not only experienced a life-changing event, but what he means to this community is a great thing. We are glad to still have him here. He appreciates the Mayor's openness with everyone and the fact that Mr. Bibish presented what he did and all the work that went into it, and also the fact the Mayor has asked our Auditor to look into this and get together with the Mayor to let her know what these numbers mean. This is a positive step. Tough decisions are always with us. Public safety is obviously the number one thing for a community. We have to make some decisions tonight and are glad that at least it has been put out there so that people know where we are going. He would like to take a look at what these numbers really mean on a weekly basis.

President Pro-Tem Ward made a motion to allow the Administration to look at the nine (9) temporary additional Firefighters to keep and monitor it on a temporary basis, based on the negotiations that are going on and what our total labor costs will be for this year, as well as be update either daily or weekly on what revenue is coming in to make sure that money is going to be there to keep those nine (9) Firefighters. As we do that, we will have our mid-year review in July. Budget talks have already begun by the Administration, and Council will get more directly involved in August or September in dealing with what the budget will look like for next year. He asked that Council resolve this issue and the Administration be given the latitude to work with the numbers that they see possible and need to be able to keep Firestation #4 open as well as the minimum staffing needed in the Fire Department. Councilman Murray seconded the motion. All were in favor. At this time, no funds will be appropriated to keep the nine (9) Firefighters and keep Firestation #4 open, but as funds are needed, it will then go to the Appropriations Committee to discuss.

## **MINUTES:**

Councilman Nichols moved to accept the minutes as circulated from the April 16, 2013 Regular Session City Council meeting. Councilman VanDyne seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. Filed.

**ADD-ON/REPLACEMENT/REMOVAL FROM THE AGENDA** – none.

**RECOGNITION/RETIREMENT RESOLUTIONS** – none.

**WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS** – none.

**PROCLAMATIONS** – none.

## **PETITIONS:**

### **Alley vacation request – Morrival Avenue**

Mary Houtz has requested an alley vacation for the east 19.5' of Morrival Avenue between Lima Avenue and Olney Avenue. Referred to City Planning Commission and Planning & Zoning Committee.

### **Zoning amendment request – 201 West Hardin Street, 610 South Cory Street, 614 South Cory Street**

Kyle Reichenbach has requested a zoning change for 201 West Hardin Street, 610 South Cory Street, and 614 South Cory Street from C2 General Commercial District to C3 Downtown District.

#### **Discussion:**

Councilman Slough asked if this is spot zoning and if it is contiguous with anything. Service-Safety Director Schmeizer replied it is zoned commercial around these properties. Referred to City Planning Commission and Planning & Zoning Committee.

## **REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT:**

### **Service-Safety Director Paul Schmeizer – Employment agreement for Patricia Wright**

The City of Findlay has reached a final agreement with Patricia Wright. It has taken some work with her legal counsel and the Auditor, but is not at the point where Council's approval is needed to continue her temporary employment. Her position is a Clerk II. She is temporarily appointed by the Service-Safety Director. Her duties are to work on the conversion of engineering plans, wastewater and water treatment documents, contracts, and other documents from hard copy to electronic copy. These records take up considerable amounts of storage space and are not archived in a searchable format. The goal is to convert as much as possible and modify the Engineering Department retention schedule to allow for electronic storage of documents. It would be ideal to have the public be able to search old plans and records from a kiosk in the Engineering Department or online, but that is only the first step. Ms. Wright approached the Service-Safety Director shortly after the layoff notices were issued and indicated that she was very close to retirement, and that the layoff would have an impact on her ability to retire. Her inability to retire after twenty-five (25) years would have caused her significant financial distress. She also reiterated her position to many Council members.

The Service-Safety Director was in the process of getting quotes for a document service company to scan and archive the documents in storage when he approached Ms. Wright and indicated that she could work temporarily getting the scanning done for the City and then she could retire when eligible.

The City's labor legal counsel, Clemans Nelson indicated that public sector layoffs are unusual. Most of the time, furloughs are used, but the Service-Safety Director does not feel that the City's goals for streamlining would be accomplished with furloughs as entire departments are affected by furloughs and many times the cuts are short lived. The cuts in many departments will be in place for the long term, which is why the City decided on layoffs. The decision to pursue layoffs has a larger impact on senior staff, but the focus was not a layoff based on seniority, it was based on a thorough examination of staff levels by department along with budgetary constraints. The employment agreement is in lieu of a layoff. The City's ability to come to an agreement with Ms. Wright is a win for her and the City accomplishes a needed task and long term personnel cost savings. It is also a more beneficial arrangement than a traditional early retirement buyout agreement.

Ms. Wright has agreed to come back on temporary assignment at a significantly lower rate of pay. This was needed in order to get closer to the cost of outsourcing the scanning. As with any agreement, there are concessions and stipulations. Unique circumstances surrounding any employment agreement, especially one involving an employee with as many years as Ms. Wright has, should be considered by Council.

Along with Ms. Wright's hourly rate reduction and pending retirement, layoffs in the Recreation, Engineering, and Zoning Departments are now complete. Reductions have occurred as planned through attrition in the Police Department, and a planned reduction resulting from two (2) retirements in the Street Department have already taken place. The pending retirement in Computer Services and the much discussed layoffs in the Fire Department will complete the list of cuts outlined at the end of 2012.

The employment agreement attached covers the terms already mentioned above. Her legal counsel has reviewed the structure of the agreement and the Auditor has worked with the Law Director to finalize needed changes to the original agreement. Now that all parties have reviewed this agreement, Council's approval is needed. This will move us closer to getting the documents scanned in Engineering, allowing Ms. Wright to get to retirement and avoid a drawn out layoff process. Resolution No. 014-2013 was created. Filed.

**City Planning Commission minutes** – March 14, 2013 and April 11, 2013; **staff report** – April 11, 2013; **agenda** – May 9, 2013. Filed.

**Findlay City Board of Health Minutes** – March 20, 2013. Filed.

**City of Findlay Board of Zoning Appeals Minutes** – March 14, 2013. Filed.

**Officer/Shareholders Disclosure Form from the Ohio Department of Commerce Division of Liquor Control** for Kevin Rettig, located at 1101 West Main Cross Street, Findlay, Ohio for a D5 liquor permit. This requires a vote of Council.

Gregory R. Home, Chief of Police – Kevin Rettig, located at 1101 West Main Cross Street, Findlay, Ohio. A check of the records shows no criminal record on the following:

Kevin E. Rettig

Councilwoman Spence moved for no objections be filed. Seconded by Councilman Nichols. 7 Council members in favor, 2 opposed. Filed.

**Auditor Jim Staschiak – FPD and FFD pension fund new employee contribution rate**

On the agenda are two (2) resolutions concerning the pre-tax status of employee contributions to the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund. One addresses the Fire Department employees; the other is for the employees of the Police Department. The employee contribution for the Police and Fire Pension Fund is increasing to ten and three-quarter per cent (10.75%) in July. The pension system has notified my office that the City will need to update the previous resolutions, if we would like to maintain the pre-tax status of the entire deduction. Earlier legislation would only allow for the ten per cent (10%) deduction to have a pre-tax status. The updated resolutions must be approved by June 6, 2013 or earlier and must be filed timely with the Ohio Police and Fire Pension fund. Council's approval of the resolutions in order to maintain this benefit for Findlay's Police and Fire Departments is requested. Resolutions 016-2013 and 017-2013 were created. Filed.

**Auditor Jim Staschiak – report summary of City's debt**

As part of the continuing effort to fully disclose the current status of the City of Findlay's finances, the Auditor's Office is in the process of completing a report summarizing the debt of the City. This report is instrumental in maintaining the favorable bond rating of the City. A presentation of this report by the City Auditor at the next Appropriations Committee meeting is requested. Referred to the Appropriations Committee. Filed.

**Service-Safety Director Paul Schmelzer – Fostoria Avenue Drainage (Phase II), Project No. 32593600**

This project is included in the 2013 Capital Improvements Plan. An original appropriation of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) was approved in January 2010. At this time, an additional appropriation of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00) is needed in order to continue with project design. Legislation to appropriate funds is requested. Ordinance No. 2013-027 was created.

FROM:	Sewer Fund (Sewer Fund (Stormwater Restricted Account))	\$ 15,000.00
TO:	Fostoria Avenue Drainage (Phase II) Project #32593600	\$ 15,000.00

Filed.

**Service-Safety Director Paul Schmelzer – Adopt-A-Tree Program**

Due to previous budget cuts in 2013, the Public Works Department had eliminated funding in its budget for the Adopt-A-Tree program for the purchase of trees. The funding for the purchase of trees was planned to be included in the 2013 Capital Plan, but subsequently learned that the purchase of trees is not an allowable capital expense. The Adopt-A-Tree program is a requirement of the Tree City USA program. Maintaining the program has allowed the City to maintain its Tree City USA status for thirty-two (32) consecutive years. An appropriation of funds is requested.

FROM:	General Fund	\$ 4,500.00
TO:	Parks Maintenance #21034000-other	\$ 4,500.00

**Discussion:**

President Pro-Tem Ward is unsure why this cannot be a capital expenditure as a tree lasts longer than trucks or roads. Referred to the Appropriations Committee. Filed.

**City Income Tax Monthly Collection Report – April 2013. Filed.**

**Findlay W.O.R.C. Program Charge Statistics – 01/1/2013 through 4/30/2013; Findlay Work Release Program Monthly Payment Statistics Summary – 01/01/2013 through 4/30/2013; Findlay W.O.R.C. Program Monthly Tally Sheet – 01/01/2013 through 4/30/2013; Findlay W.O.R.C. Financial Analysis – 01/1/2013 through 4/30/2013.**

**Discussion:**

Councilman Slough asked if this program is generating any revenue. Service-Safety Director Schmelzer replied that the savings that are being generated by the program do not exist. They are negative, however, the things that were not included in this report is the additional funding that the courts put towards the general fund for the Police, and they also reduced costs of security. Savings was not stellar last year either. Expenses are down, but the use of the program is just not there at this point. He notified the court letting them know that a lot of work needs to be done with this program or else it will not survive.

Councilman VanDyne is disappointed because he thought the appeal that was made to Council was that the court was going to jump on this. Service-Safety Director Schmelzer replied that they have made a concerted effort at the court level to market the program. Mr. Spridgeon and Mr. Beach have both been very involved. We talked about different ways to reach out to the courts and the county. When you take a look at the monthly numbers and the year to date numbers for the different courts, you will notice a significant drop off in the other facilities that we are using at the WORC program last year. He does not have an answer for what it will take for those other courts to come back and use the program.

Councilwoman Spence asked that since the WORC program puts the financials together for Council, if adjustments could be made for the amount for the court has provided. Service-Safety Director Schmelzer replied it is ninety thousand dollars (\$90,000.00) with sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000) from the court for security, and that we cut approximately thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000.00) from the contract. Over last year, until that number gets to negative ninety (90), we are still ahead of the game from where we were last year. Those were measures we took this year which will help us evaluate with the court to see where we are at with it.

Councilwoman Spence added that it is her understanding that the court system is now charging defendants fifty-five dollars (\$55.00) a day as part of their court costs, so there is a possibility that these numbers, once people realize that they are actually paying a lot less to participate in the WORC program than they would to actually sit in jail, that we might see some change throughout the rest of the year.

Councilman Nichols thinks the WORC program is a great idea and would like to see it flourish so it could pay for itself. There are a lot of projects out there that could be assigned to workers to do around the City, it would be a great program for the City. Service-Safety Director Schmelzer replied that he has heard that, but is unsure how realistic it is. Filed.

**Findlay Police Department Activities Report – April 2013. Filed.**

**Service-Safety Director Paul Schmelzer – annual bids and contracts**

Each year, the City formally bids a number of chemicals, materials, and services. Contracts for these items run for a calendar year with option(s) to renew in one (1) year increments. In July, a review and evaluation of the current contracts and contracted vendors will be conducted. The City would like to advertise and received bids in October for contracts that will not be renewed. Items to be bid this year include several chemicals used by the Water Treatment Plan and Water Pollution Control Center, uniforms, services, and supplies. Legislation to authorize bidding and contracting of these items is requested. Ordinance No. 2013-029 was created. Filed.

**Cash & Investments Report/Budget Summary of Year-To-Date Information Report as of April 30, 2013.** Filed.

**Service-Safety Director Paul Schmelzer – HAN-Findlay Street Improvements, ODOT PI# 93050**

By authorization of Ordinance No. 2012-092, bids were opened for this project on April 29, 2013. Bids were received from five (5) potential contractors. The lowest and best bid was received from M&B Asphalt of Old Fort, Ohio in the amount of three hundred sixty-six thousand six hundred ninety-five dollars (\$366,695). This project is included in the 2013 Capital Improvements Plan with eighty percent (80%) funding from ODOT. Streets to be resurfaced are:

- W Sandusky St (Glessner St to Emma St)
- E Bigelow Ave (Crystal Ave to Bright Rd)
- Western Ave (Lima Ave to Lima St)
- E Main Cross St (Main St to East St)

Legislation to appropriate funds is requested (bid amount of \$366,695, contingency and inspection time). Ordinance No. 2013-027 was created.

FROM: ODOT	\$ 352,880.00
FROM: County Permissive License Fund	\$ 88,220.00
TO: ODOT Resurfacing/Street Improvements <i>Project #32821500</i>	\$ 441,100.00

Filed.

**N.E.A.T. Departmental Activity Report – April 2013.** Filed.

**Traffic Commission Minutes – March 18, 2013.** Filed.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

The **PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE** to whom was referred a request to discuss Community Reinvestment Areas #1 and #2. *We recommend that the expansion of the Community Reinvestment Area as proposed by Hancock Regional Planning Commission be presented to a Committee of the Whole for full review prior to consideration of legislation.*

Councilman Collette moved to adopt the committee report. Councilwoman Spence seconded the motion. All were in favor. Filed.

The **PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE** to whom was referred a request from Van Horn, Hoover and Associates on behalf of RJT Properties LLC to rezone 400, 414, and 418 West Main Cross Street, as well as 208 and 214 Liberty Street from I1 Light Industrial to C3 Downtown Commercial. *We recommend approval of the rezone.*

Councilman Nichols moved to adopt the committee report. Councilman Collette seconded the motion. All were in favor. Filed.

A **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE** was held on April 30, 2013 to discuss Community Reinvestment Areas (CRAs).

Councilman Nichols moved to adopt the committee report. Councilwoman Spence seconded the motion. All were in favor. Filed.

**LEGISLATION:**

**RESOLUTIONS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 014-2013** (*ratify Memorandum of Understand & Addendum*)

**First reading**

**Adopted**

A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND ADDENDUM THERETO BETWEEN THE CITY OF FINDLAY AND PATRICIA WRIGHT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Collette moved to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Councilman VanDyne. Councilman Nichols moved to suspend the Statutory Rules and give the Resolution its second and third reading. Seconded by Councilman Collette. Aye: Spence, VanDyne, Ward, Collette, Monday, Murray, Nichols, Schedel, Slough. The Resolution received its second and third reading. Councilman Nichols moved to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Councilman Collette.

Discussion:

Councilman Slough asked if the City is saving money with this agreement by utilizing Ms. Wright instead of outsourcing it. Service-Safety Director Schmelzer replied yes. Councilman Slough then asked if it will be for an extended period of time. Service-Safety Director Schmelzer replied it will be until the end of June.

Aye: VanDyne, Ward, Collette, Monday, Murray, Nichols, Schedel, Slough, Spence. The Resolution was declared adopted and is recorded in Resolution Volume XXXIII, and is hereby made a part of the record.

**RESOLUTION NO. 015-2013** (no PO written)**First reading****Adopted**

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE EXPENDITURES MADE BY THE AUDITORS OFFICE ON THE ATTACHED LIST OF VOUCHERS WHICH EITHER EXCEED THE PURCHASE ORDER OR WERE INCURRED WITHOUT A PURCHASE ORDER EXCEEDING THE STATUTORY LIMIT OF THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3000.00) ALL IN ACCORDANCE WITH OHIO REVISED CODE 5705.41(D).

Councilman VanDyne moved to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Councilman Collette. Aye: Ward, Collette, Monday, Murray, Nichols, Schedel, Slough, Spence, Van Dyne. The Resolution was declared adopted and is recorded in Resolution Volume XXXV, and is hereby made a part of the record.

**RESOLUTION NO. 016-2013** (FPD new ee contribution)**First reading****Adopted**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE AUDITOR OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO TO COMPLY WITH SECTION 742.31 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Collette moved to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Councilman Nichols.

**Discussion:**

President Pro-Tem Ward noted that this is for the ten and three-quarter per cent (10.75%) for the Fire Department. Law Director Rasmussen added that this will be required by State Statute. He added the emergency clause so that they had time to adjust everything so that it is done.

Councilman Collette moved to suspend the Statutory Rules and give the Resolution its second and third reading. Seconded by Councilman Nichols. Aye: Collette, Monday, Murray, Nichols, Schedel, Slough, Spence, VanDyne, Ward. The Resolution received its second and third reading. Councilman Nichols moved to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Councilman Collette. Aye: Collette, Monday, Murray, Nichols, Schedel, Slough, Spence, VanDyne, Ward. The Resolution was declared adopted and is recorded in Resolution Volume XXXIII, and is hereby made a part of the record.

**RESOLUTION NO. 017-2013** (FPD new ee contribution)**First reading****Adopted**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE AUDITOR OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO TO COMPLY WITH SECTION 742.31 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilwoman Spence moved to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Councilman VanDyne. Councilman VanDyne moved to suspend the Statutory Rules and give the Resolution its second and third reading. Seconded by Councilwoman Spence. Aye: Monday, Murray, Nichols, Schedel, Slough, Spence, VanDyne, Ward, Collette. The Resolution received its second and third reading. Councilman Spence moved to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Councilman VanDyne. Aye: Murray, Nichols, Schedel, Slough, Spence, VanDyne, Ward, Collette, Monday. The Resolution was declared adopted and is recorded in Resolution Volume XXXIII, and is hereby made a part of the record.

**ORDINANCES****ORDINANCE NO. 2012-100** (EMA)**Tabled**

Mayor Mihalik referred this to the 1/8/13 Appropriations Committee after the 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, DEVELOP A 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.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2013-019** (Dietsch Brothers alley vacation)**Third reading****Adopted**

AN ORDINANCE VACATING A CERTAIN ALLEY (HEREINAFTER REFERED TO AS DIETSCH BROTHERS ALLEY VACATION) IN THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO.

Councilman Collette moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Murray. Ayes: Nichols, Schedel, Slough, Spence, VanDyne, Ward, Collette, Monday, Murray. Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume VV, Page 2013-019 and is hereby made a part of the record.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2013-020** (123 Cherry St rezone)**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 REZONING THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY (REFERRED TO AS 123 CHERRY STREET REZONE) WHICH PREVIOUSLY WAS ZONED "C1 LOCAL COMMERCIAL" TO "C3 DOWNTOWN DISTRICT".

Councilman Collette moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Murray. Ayes: Schedel, Slough, Spence, VanDyne, Ward, Collette, Monday, Murray, Nichols. Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume VV, Page 2013-020 and is hereby made a part of the record.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2013-024** (repeal & replace flood damage reduction - Chapter 1351)**Second reading**

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING CURRENT CHAPTER 1351 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO AND IN ITS PLACE, ENACTING A NEW CHAPTER 1351 TO BE KNOWN AS THE FLOOD DAMAGE REDUCTION ORDINANCE.

**Discussion:**

Zoning Administrator Todd Richard from the audience explained that the revised part of the ordinance (Appendix A) is a matrix that shows what is acceptable and what is not acceptable. Service-Safety Director Schmelzer commended Mr. Richard on a great job he has done working through all the details in this flood code. It is a very tedious job. Mr. Richard noted that he had a lot of good help and thanked those who helped him.

Mayor Mihalik noted that Mr. Richard is wearing many hats for the City and it is appreciated.

Second reading of the Ordinance.

May 7, 2013 City Council minutes

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO, TO ENTER INTO A MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT WITH DB SOLTUTONS FOR LANDSCAPING, MOWING, AND FIELD MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF FINDLAY'S CUBE AND 5-PLEX BASEBALL FIELDS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**Discussion:**

President Pro-Tem Ward noted that in order to remove this ordinance from the agenda, Council will need to vote to do so. President Pro-Tem Ward moved to remove this ordinance from the agenda, seconded by Councilman Collette. All were in favor.

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 DIETSCH BROTHERS REZONE) WHICH PREVIOUSLY WAS ZONED "I1 LIGHT INDUSTRIAL" TO "C3 DOWNTOWN COMMERCIAL".

First reading of the Ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Collette moved to suspend the Statutory Rules and give the Ordinance its second and third readings. Councilwoman Spence seconded the motion. Ayes: Schedel, Slough, Spence, VanDyne, Ward, Collette, Monday, Murray, Nichols. The Ordinance received its second and third readings. Councilman Collette moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Nichols. Ayes: Slough, Spence, VanDyne, Ward, Collette, Monday, Murray, Nichols, Schedel. Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume VV, Page 2013-027 and is hereby made a part of the record.

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO, TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO CONTRACTS, WITH OPTION YEARS, FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE MATERIALS, CHEMICALS, AND SERVICE AGREEMENTS NEEDED BY THE VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2014, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilwoman Spence moved to suspend the Statutory Rules and give the Ordinance its second and third readings. Councilman Collette seconded the motion. Ayes: Spence, VanDyne, Ward, Collette, Monday, Murray, Nichols, Schedel, Slough. The Ordinance received its second and third readings. Councilwoman Spence moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Collette. Ayes: VanDyne, Ward, Collette, Monday, Murray, Nichols, Schedel, Slough, Spence. Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume VV, Page 2013-028 and is hereby made a part of the record.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Old Business** – none.

**New Business:**

Councilman Murray: **PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE** meeting on May 21, 2013 at 4:30pm, Council Chambers, first floor of the Municipal Building (CC).

- agenda: 1. 509 Fifth Street alley vacation
- 2. 1650 Lima Avenue alley vacation
- 3. 201 West Hardin Street, 610 & 614 South Cory Street rezone

Councilman Slough asked if the City has been kept up to date on what ODOT and the state is going to do with I-75 at the intersection at 12. It will be a major economic impact on this community. Service-Safety Director Schmelzer replied that the Administration has been in constant contact with ODOT trying to get the schedule figured out for I-75 and the other routes they are paving. By the next City Council meeting, he will provide a list of all the Engineering projects that are ongoing for this year, and an updated list of all the ODOT projects that the City is working with them on clear through 2018. Councilman Slough added that when 224 and Trenton Avenue where that bridge at the intersection of 12 and I-75 and all the widening and that the City will be under construction for a long time. Service-Safety Director Schmelzer replied that there will be multiple projects this year.

Councilman Slough asked about the status of the City and County Health Department merger. Service-Safety Director Schmelzer replied that there has not been a lot of activity on it to report. He has had some conversations and some interaction with certain individuals that he would like to have the City help foster us through the process. Chris Press from Blanchard Valley has agreed to do that, as well as Bill Alge. He has reviewed a lot of information from Mr. Press has provided. They are going to schedule an appointment with the DAC.

President Pro-Tem Ward: **APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE** meeting on May 14, 2013 at 4:30pm, first floor conference room of the Municipal Building (CR1).

- agenda: 1. Adopt-A-Tree program
- 2. City's debt
- 3. Engineering projects

President Pro-Tem Ward adjourned Council at 10:06pm.

CLERK OF COUNCIL

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL PRO-TEM