

FINDLAY CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
REGULAR SESSION JUNE 16, 2020 COUNCIL CHAMBERS

ROLL CALL of 2020-2021 Councilmembers:

PRESENT: Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser

ABSENT: Russel

President of Council Harrington opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

President of Council Harrington pointed out that Councilman Russel had informed him that he would not be in attendance tonight. Councilman Slough moved to excuse Councilman Russel, seconded by Councilman Hellmann. All were in favor.

ADD-ON/REPLACEMENT/REMOVAL FROM THE AGENDA:

Councilman Shindledecker moved to add-on and replace the following on tonight's agenda, seconded by Councilman Slough. All were in favor. Motion carried. Filed.

ADD-ONS:

- PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE report – 1020 Adams Street vacation (COMMITTEE REPORTS section)
- PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE report – 253, 251, 0 (parcel #580000238240) Madison Avenue rezone (COMMITTEE REPORTS section)
- Ordinance No. 2020-068 to vacate 1020 Adams Street (LEGISLATION section)
- Ordinance No. 2020-069 to rezone 253, 251, 0 (parcel no. 580000238240) Madison Avenue (LEGISLATION section)

REPLACEMENTS:

- Resolution No. 019-2020 (HB 481 – changed from S.B. 310) (LEGISLATION section)
 - All references to S.B. 310 changed to HB 481

ACCEPTANCE/CHANGES TO PREVIOUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES:

Councilman Slough moved to accept the June 2, 2020 Regular Session City Council meeting minutes, Councilman Palmer seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. Filed.

PROCLAMATIONS: none

RECOGNITION/RETIREMENT RESOLUTIONS: none

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

David Alvarado – Findlay City School's response to diversity, inclusion, and discrimination

Mr. Alvarado is a Findlay City School Administrator, as well as a member of the Cultural Humility and Health Equity Delegation. With the recent events going on in the world today, Findlay City Schools (FCS) felt that it was necessary to take a stance and make a statement with respect to diversity, inclusion, and discrimination. The statement is being read at this very moment by the incoming Superintendent Troy Roth on his weekly YouTube broadcast and will be posted on the FCS's website. Mr. Alvarado recited the statement:

Discrimination has no place in our world, our nation, our community, or our school. As a school district, we believe that discrimination in any form is not acceptable, nor is remaining silent as a response to the current events facing our country. Silence by nature is a response and that is not a response we are comfortable making. When faced with challenging situations, we could choose to turn our heads, conduct a safe and private conversation, or we could choose to take a public stand by discussing, reflecting, learning, and growing even if the dialog becomes uncomfortable. FCS chooses to take a stand for equality. There are many racial and diversity issues facing our nation. As leaders of the district, we believe that it is critical to take a stand to lead the FCS District in a manner that puts equality, diversity, and acceptance into the forefront of our minds, our hearts, and our actions.

The Ohio School Board Association (OSBA) issued a statement on those who have lost their lives to systemic racism over the years. We echo their statement of the need for change and the willingness to take appropriate steps towards such change. Part of the OSBA's statement reads:

There is no place for racism and hatred in our society. Strong public schools are the great equalizer and education provides the foundation to change perceptions and attitudes. We must go beyond words to implement meaningful solutions that eliminate racism, social injustice and bias and foster equity to provide the catalyst for sustained and systemic change.

The FCS District is proud of the Trojan community. We define ourselves to be Trojan True which is more than a slogan, hashtag, or a fun logo on the back of a t-shirt. Trojan True means that we respect all forms of discrimination and we support a welcoming, an equitable culture that values diversity in all forms. As we navigate the many challenges together, let us navigate them in a manner that we embrace as Trojan True. Trojan country does not stop at the doors of our schools. We will all commit to living each day demonstrating the utmost respectful behavior elevating Trojan Country to the highest possible level of excellence.

Discussion:

Councilman Haas asked Mr. Alvarado if he has witnessed any type of discrimination and if so, if the school requires the offender to attend any types of classes. Mr. Alvarado replied that he has been in the district for approximately seventeen (17) years at the elementary schools, middle schools and high school where there have been situations. There is diversity training for students as well as cultural awareness.

Zachary Thomas – The Cultural Humility & Health Equity Delegation

Mr. Thomas's purpose for speaking is two-fold: to provide Council a brief introduction to the work of the Delegation, and to invite them to support and participate in its mission. The Delegation is a collective of citizens, stakeholders and local leaders committed to establishing a community of belonging in Findlay and Hancock County. They strive for the obtainment of true equity and empowerment of all residents. This is accomplished not only through belonging, but also acutely addressing health disparity that prohibit members of the community from achieving optimal health. Moreover, in 2018, they learned from the Hancock County Community Health Assessment, that one (1) in four (4) people believe that diversity is not fully embraced. This fact compels them to do this work. The urgency is real and necessary. Initially, the Delegation began in 2017 as a vehicle to diversify resources so that minority and isolated communities can appropriately receive and process information about social services. During this early work, it was learned through Dr. Michael Flaherty that when we strive to serve the most vulnerable within our community, we actually better serve the entire public. Leaning into his counsel, the delegation began to collaborate with the Center for Civic Engagement helping to infuse with each of the coalitions, a mindset of cultural humility and equity as each addressed social determination of health to improve the quality of life. Most recently, the Delegation's work has gained even greater community momentum prompted by local, state, and national civil action with an explicit expectation of establishing a community of belonging. As defined by John Powell of the Othering & Belonging Institute of the University of California, belonging is a practice of respecting that includes the right to both co-create community structures and make demands of society. Belonging provides opportunity to participate in the design of social policies and practices. Belonging requires the well-being and humanity as paramount. This is a critical point to remember. If a community is to have economic success, it must be willing to embrace social diversity. An unwillingness to see importance of diversity in its entirety will stifle economic growth. The Delegation has dedicated its body of work to establishing a shared set of actionable values offering tools to support the development of an equitable and belonging community and employing intentional measures of success that demonstrate the validity of the work of the Delegation. On behalf of the Delegation, he invited Council to become curious and engage in this groundswell as we collectively work toward achieving the goals set forth. As a profound local community leader has most recently said, the diversity in all of this is the richness of our society. May we humbly find a way to create a seat at the table where all are welcome.

Amanda McClellan – racial bias and City's budget

Ms. McClellan calls Findlay, Ohio her home. She is before Council tonight with humility. She carries racial bias and she has a lot to learn about racial inequality. She can no longer sit silently and watch humans suffocated by the systemic racism of our history. She is no longer willing to say that we no longer have a problem because it doesn't personally affect her. She is willing to recognize her bias and is willing to unlearn and relearn and start to understand how to be a welcoming community. The three (3) words: black lives matter does not mean they matter more. It means they matter. She is here tonight to petition Council, as community leaders, to join her with tangible actions to demonstrate that Findlay Ohio is part of the solution to create safe communities for all races to call home. She asked Council if they are willing to be uncomfortable with personal, familiar neighborhood and community bias and relearn a new way to live. Today is the time to step up, speak out, learn to unlearn history. Change starts at home. She asked Council if they are willing to lead with courage. The 2019 Census reports that Findlay's white alone population is eighty-eight and nine tenths percent (88.9%) which says that the racial bias is deep in the heart of this community. The numbers are speaking loudly. This community on paper does not welcome people of color. Harriet Tubman stated:

After I crossed the line of freedom, I was free, but there was no one to welcome me to the land of freedom. I was a stranger in a strange land.

Findlay has been the top micropolitan city for many years that has an opportunity to be leaders in recognizing our individual neighborhood and community bias. Together we have a chance to seek equality and erase systemic racism. Ms. McClellan will join Council and will help Council do the work, even if she is uncomfortable. She asked Council, the Administration and the community if they will focus forward and look towards change and if they will deeply dive into the City budget and work together with the citizens of Findlay to make the community welcoming and safe for all. She asked City Auditor Staschiak if he is willing to take his pen and make changes to redistribute funds to move tax dollars to train Police Officers to be stewards of safety.

Programs need to be built that promote equality and teach about inequality and bring the community to where they want to be. She thanked Mayor Muryn for be willing to join the peaceful protestors tomorrow to pray for peace, justice, and unity, and to end the violence.

She is reminded of the words of former slave and order of Fredrick Douglas:

I prayed for freedom for twenty (20) years but received no answer until I prayed with my legs.

She asked Council if they will commit to examining the budget to welcome the black community home.

PETITIONS:

Alley vacation request – 1017 Hurd Avenue

Kim Hamilton of 1017 Hurd Avenue, is requesting to vacate the alley between Lot 132 in Byals A P O L and Lots 1901-1904 in the Schwartz & Firmins Addition from Hurd Avenue east to the first north/south alley. Referred to City Planning Commission and Planning & Zoning Committee. Filed.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

The **Downtown Findlay Improvement District** held a meeting on June 3, 2020 at the Sherman House.

- Hanging flower baskets will be hung soon. Watering is being contracted out with Stratton Greenhouses Inc. of Bluffton and includes the use of a gator. The City of Findlay is looking to provide water for watering from a downtown fire hydrant. Costs of the flowers and the water services are born by the DFID.
- Cleaning and maintenance efforts performed by Pleasant View Lawn & Landscape Inc. with costs borne by the DFID continue. Pleasant View works in conjunction with the Public Works Department to keep our downtown looking great.
- The DFID expressed support for the creation of Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA) in downtown similar to those that exist in Toledo, Delaware, Worthington and many other Ohio communities. A DORA enables the City to establish a district within which patrons of restaurants and bars may purchase alcoholic beverages and then carry the drinks throughout the district without restrictions of Ohio open-container laws. A DORA would be requested by the Mayor and require City Council approval.
- The DFID has hand ongoing discussions about how to effectively communicate its activities to its membership. An email distribution list and private Facebook group are being developed to support this effort. Contact Councilman Russel if you would like to be added to either communications channel.
Filed.

The **REVOLVING LOAN FUND (RLF) Board** held a virtual meeting on June 10, 2020 to review two (2) applications for the new ten thousand dollar (\$10,000.00) Findlay Business Catalyst Loan Program. There was also a request for a microenterprise loan of thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000.00) for Modcraft LLC which is a small microbrewery looking to move into where DiVine Wine was located.

Catalyst Loan applications were from:

- Renz Salanga with Stix Restaurant
- Fastsigns of Findlay (previously Signed by Josette, LLC)

All applications and requests were approved.

Discussion:

Councilman Wobser asked Director Cordonnier if he wants to discuss this now or later. Director Cordonnier (from the audience) came to the podium. Councilman Wobser thanked the RLF for working hard over the last couple of weeks getting all of them pushed through. He pointed out that Modcraft is asking for thirty-five thousand dollar (\$35,000.00) which is not the same amount as the majority of them of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) and asked why they are asking for more than the usual. Director Cordonnier replied that loans of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) or less are rarely done. There are less requirements with the ten thousand dollar (\$10,000.00) loans and are a faster application process. Loans over ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) go through their normal loan process and require all the normal documentation that is asked for. Councilman Wobser asked if loans of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) or less require the same documentation.

Director Cordonnier replied that it is an expedited application, and does not require as many tax returns and does not require a profit loss statement, etc. Councilman Wobser pointed out that Modcraft is a small microbrewery company going in where Divine Wine is located now and asked if the Board had any issue with giving their competition ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) last year, so essentially funding competing businesses. He asked if that will be undermining other loans by bringing in competition. Director Cordonnier replied no, that issue was not discussed at the meeting.

Councilman Hellmann pointed out that this will not finance any fixed assets and is for working capital. He asked if there are any personal guarantees on the notes since they are not for fixed assets and if the City has to go after them if they go out of business. Director Cordonnier replied that there are personal guarantees on all of them. For example, there are three (3) owners for Modcraft where all three (3) signed the personal guarantee. Councilman Hellmann asked if the owners have been in business before. Director Cordonnier replied that the current two (2) - ten thousand dollar (\$10,000.00) loan applicants are existing businesses. One of the categories for the catalyst loan is that they had to be incorporated as of January 1, 2019. For the standard RLF, it is not a caveat. The Board consists of a group (lawyers, business individuals, accountants etc.) that ask a lot of questions. He trusts their judgment. He met with the applicant of Modcraft and asked questions for approximately thirty to forty (30-40) minutes and went through their business plan. Applicants have to go through the process to get approved.

Director Cordonnier reminded Council that he requested the three (3) readings be waived and passed on an emergency basis so they can move forward with them. The City Auditor's Office has been working with them on how to expedite the process so that the companies will have the check in hand this Friday if Council waives the three (3) readings and passes them tonight. Filed.

REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENTS:

City Income Tax Monthly Collection Report – May 2020. Filed.

Findlay Municipal Court Activities Report – May 2020. Filed.

Mayor Muryn – Blanchard Valley Port Authority appointment

Mayor Muryn is reappointing Paul Sears to the Blanchard Valley Port Authority. Mr. Sears has served as a joint City of Findlay/Hancock County appointment to the Port Authority since its inception in 2007. His appointment will be effective through June 30, 2024. This appointment requires Council confirmation.

Councilman Hellmann moved to accept this appointment, seconded by Councilman Slough. All were in favor. Filed.

City Auditor Staschiak – summary financial reports

A set of summary financial reports for the prior month follows including:

- Summary of Year-To-Date Information as of May 31, 2020
- Financial Snapshot for General Fund as of May 31, 2020
- Open Projects Report as of May 31, 2020
- Cash & Investments as of May 31, 2020

Filed.

Findlay Police Department Activities Report – May 2020. Filed.

Findlay Fire Department Activities Report – May 2020. Filed.

City Auditor Staschiak – City's Rainy Day Reserve Account

During the budget and pre-budget meetings, it was mentioned that it is time to consider increasing the City's Rainy Day Reserve Account to an amount closer to Ohio's statutory limit. Historically, it is funded to a level of one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) and would be used in the event the operational revenues fall short of the total resources available under Ohio Law for operations. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this would be the best time to do so. Per the financial snapshot report provided in tonight's City Council packet, the account can be increased by approximately five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00). There isn't a more strategic move that can be made to buffer the City's ability to pay operational costs creating time to react to a General Fund Revenue shortfall. Since the creation of the City's Rainy Day Reserve Account in 2009, the appropriated operations budget has increased twenty-one percent (21%) and the account balance has remained fixed. The funding level of this account could be tied to the growth in the operations budget as part of an adopted policy ordinance. City Auditor Staschiak is willing to discuss this with the City's Appropriations Committee. Legislation to appropriate funds to bolster the City's Rainy Day Reserve Account is requested. City Auditor Staschiak requested this letter be read into the record. Resolution No. 018-2020 was created.

FROM:	General Fund	\$ 500,000.00
TO:	General Fund Rainy Day Reserve Account	\$ 500,000.00

Discussion:

Councilman Wobser asked that the letter be read into the record, seconded by Councilman Palmer. All were in favor. The Council Clerk read the letter in its entirety.

Councilman Hellmann asked why now is the best time to do this as the City Auditor has stated in his letter when not long ago, he was stating not to spend money due to COVID-19. City Auditor Staschiak replied that he has been advocating to increase the amount of the Rainy Day Fund for approximately three (3) years now which is separate from moving money to capital for items that could be paid out of the Rainy Day Fund. The unique thing about moving and restricting money for this particular account is that it takes the money effectively off the books and cannot be used for budgeting for any purposes other than should there be a shortfall in revenues for operations in a given budget year. Council passed the same legislation in 2009 to increase the amount in this restricted account to four percent (4%). He is now asking to take it to the full five percent (5%) which is what the State allows. The budget for the General Fund is approximately thirty million dollars (\$30,000,000.00). The City has one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) when revenues fall short. In the last couple of weeks, it has been mentioned that revenues could fall between five to six million dollars (\$5,000,000.00 - \$6,000,000.00) short, so one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) will not cover the entire shortfall.

The money the City is allowed to tuck away by statute, the more time the Administration has to make the changes they need to make in a methodical manner so the City does not end up in the type of situation in 2009-2011 when things were going downhill. Councilman Hellmann does not have an underlying problem with the premise, but that it seems odd to do it at a time when Council was just reminded a couple of weeks ago not to spend money. City Auditor Staschiak replied that they are two (2) separate issues.

Councilman Wobser asked if he is correct in stating that if the money is put in the Rainy Day Fund, the only way it can be used is if the City starts to run short of cash in a given year of operations. City Auditor Staschiak replied that is correct. There was an attempt to utilize some of the Rainy Day Fund for cleanup expenses the year of the Derecho. There were trees everywhere and was expensive to clean up. Rainy Day Fund is used in the year when budget revenues fall short. By statute, that is all it can be used for. It can bolster the City's financial position over the long haul. Councilman Wobser asked if the City started out with a budget of approximately eight million dollars (\$8,000,000.00). City Auditor Staschiak replied the City started out with thirteen million dollars (\$13,000,000.00). Councilman Wobser then asked if the City ends up with zero (\$0) working dollars, then they could tap into the one million dollars to one million five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,000,000.00-\$1,500,000.00) which is when this would come into play. Even though it would be taken out of the General Fund, the City would still have the ability to use it when in dire straits. City Auditor Staschiak replied that is correct.

Councilman Hellmann would like to have either the APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE of the COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE look at this. City Auditor Staschiak replied he will attend that meeting.

Councilman Wobser agreed with Councilman Hellmann and noted that it will be decided which committee to refer it to during the OLD BUSINESS portion of tonight's meeting.

Mayor Murn added that she is in support of this as it is good to set aside an emergency fund. Right now, the City is very fortunate that there is a strong General Fund revenue balance. Setting aside these funds is prudent to do and further protects the City down the road. The City is nowhere near needing to tap into these funds at this point, but she is in support of safeguarding these funds for a future rainy day. Filed.

Deputy City Auditor Sampson – Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Program grant

During the May 19, 2020 City Council meeting, Council authorized the application and acceptance process of a U.S. Department of Justice Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Program grant. On June 3, 2020, notification was received that the City was awarded the grant in the amount of thirty-seven thousand dollars one hundred eighty-one dollars and no cents (\$37,181.00). It is the intention to use the funding for items such as sanitizing supplies, specialized disinfection sprayers, GPS monitoring devices used by the Court and installation of sneeze guards or shields at various counters. Legislation to appropriate awarded grant fund is requested. Ordinance No. 2020-070 was created.

FROM:	US DOJ Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Program Grant	\$ 37,181.00
TO:	DOJ Coronavirus Grant (project 31902400)	\$ 37,181.00

Filed.

Hancock Regional Planning Commission Director Matt Cordonnier – City of Findlay Revolving Loan Fund Request for Appropriation (Stix Restaurant LLC)

On June 10, 2020, the City of Findlay Revolving Loan Fund Committee awarded a loan to Stix Restaurant LLC in the amount of \$10,000.00. The funding will provide funds for working capital. The closing date for the loan has been set for June 19, 2020. Legislation to appropriate funds on an emergency basis in order to accommodate the timeline of the project and to accommodate the time sensitive needs of business and the bank involved in financing the project is requested. Ordinance No. 2020-071 was created.

FROM:	City of Findlay Revolving Loan Fund	\$ 10,000.00
TO:	Stix Restaurant LLC (31902500)	\$ 10,000.00

Filed.

Hancock Regional Planning Commission Director Matt Cordonnier – City of Findlay Revolving Loan Fund Request for Appropriation (Signed by Josette LLC)

On June 10, 2020, the City of Findlay Revolving Loan Fund Committee awarded a loan to Signed by Josette LLC in the amount of \$10,000.00. The funding will provide funds for working capital. The closing date for the loan has been set for June 19, 2020. Legislation to appropriate funds on an emergency basis in order to accommodate the timeline of the project and to accommodate the time sensitive needs of business and the bank involved in financing the project is requested. Ordinance No. 2020-072 was created.

FROM:	City of Findlay Revolving Loan Fund	\$ 10,000.00
TO:	Signed by Josette LLC dba Fastsigns of Findlay (31902900)	\$ 10,000.00

Filed.

Treasurer's Reconciliation Report – May 31, 2020. Filed.

Hancock Regional Planning Commission Director Matt Cordonnier – City of Findlay Revolving Loan Fund Request for Appropriation (Modcraft LLC)

On June 10, 2020, the City of Findlay Revolving Loan Fund Committee awarded a loan to Modcraft LLC in the amount of \$35,000.00. The funding will provide funds for working capital. The closing date for the loan has been set for June 19, 2020. Legislation to appropriate funds on an emergency basis in order to accommodate the timeline of the project and to accommodate the time sensitive needs of business and the bank involved in financing the project is requested. Ordinance No. 2020-073 was created.

FROM:	City of Findlay Revolving Loan Fund	\$ 35,000.00
TO:	Modcraft LLC #31902600)	\$ 35,000.00

Filed.

Safety Director Schmelzer – FAA FY2020 Taxiway Alpha Rehabilitation project

Four hundred thirty-two thousand six hundred twenty-four dollars and no cents (\$432,624.00) was originally planned to be spent but the grant was fully funded keeping those matching dollars (approximately \$22,000.00) in City coffers. The Airport has another opportunity to obtain infrastructure funding. The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) Office of Aviation has a program that will fund a rehabilitation project on our main ramp area. ODOT has cited this as an area that needs to be planned for pavement rehabilitation. The City of Findlay would like to be proactive and take advantage of the current grant environment. The City's proposal is to apply for the FY2021 ODOT Aviation Direct grant with a five percent (5%) contribution of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00). If awarded, the City would receive five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) and would move through the application process at that time. While there is no guarantee that the City will be awarded the grant, it is worth putting in the work to try. The City's contribution of five percent (5%) will also increase the chances of getting the award. Legislation to apply for said grant is requested. The deadline for submittal is July 15, 2020. Ordinance No. 2020-074 was created. Filed.

Safety Director Schmelzer – City of Findlay airport auxiliary building lease

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) has approached the City of Findlay about a short term lease of the airport auxiliary building and has agreed to paying four thousand five hundred (\$4,500.00)/per month plus utilities . A draft lease agreement has been sent to ODOT for review. They are interested in utilizing the facility as a project office for the next twelve (12) months. This revenue is a good way to fund HVAC upgrades to the building and allows the City of Findlay to be a good public sector partner to ODOT. Upgrade cost estimates are still being determined. Prior estimates were around twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00). Ordinance No. 2020-075 was created. Filed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

The **PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE** to whom was referred a request from Eric Bibler to vacate the alley between Lot 13081 in the Whitney Addition and Lot 8 in the High Addition from Adams Street to the alley north.

We recommend denial of the request to vacate and suggest that they resubmit the request once the property is cleaned up (Hellmann/Slough). Ordinance No. 2020-068 was created.

Discussion:

Councilman Slough moved to adopt the committee report, seconded by Councilman Niemeyer.

Mayor Muryn noted that this request was approved by the CITY PLANNING COMMISSION and then denied by the PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE due to concerns of the property needing to be cleaned up. She typically would agree with that, however, there currently are no outstanding complaints against the property. If someone had complained about the property and it became an issue that needed to be addressed, then the applicant would not be allowed to file until they had that complaint addressed. Given that this has not been reported previously and was just sprung on the property owner, she is requesting Council reconsider the committee report. The reason the applicant is asking the alley to be vacated is so that he can reconstruct a new garage and store some of the items currently stored on street inside the new garage.

Councilman Wobser does not recall the PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE ever denying someone's request because they had stuff on their front yard.

Councilman Niemeyer noted that there were complaints a couple of years ago when Ms. Greeno worked for the N.E.A.T. Department. This property is back to that condition.

Councilman Slough pointed out that the applicant is asking the City to allow him to do something he wants to do. He is not certain the applicant is going to take the responsibility and clean the property up. He asked what would preclude the applicant from cleaning up the property. He asked why the City would want to reward someone who doesn't keep their property up the way it should be.

Councilman Hellmann noted that he goes out and looks at all the requests. He was dumbfounded when he saw this one where there were belongings stored in the front yard and has an inoperable vehicle in the right-of-way. He is surprised the City does not have continuous complaints on it. If need be, he will file a complaint on it because it makes the City look bad and deteriorates the neighborhood. He felt the PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE was very courteous in recommending the property owner clean up the property and then the committee will reconsider it. He would not want to live next door to it. It does not appear to be an asset to the neighborhood.

Councilman Shindledecker noted that another issue with this was the alley on the east side of the property. He is under the impression that the applicant would like to put the garage where a camper currently is and there is also an issue with the alley vacation. He is not in favor of reconsidering this request.

Councilman Niemeyer asked if the alley vacation is just the length of the applicant's property. Mayor Muryn replied that is correct. The vacation request is only the length of the applicant's property and would be a standard request and would be split between the two (2) adjoining property owners. The applicant's neighbor signed off on the petition. Mayor Muryn would agree with the committee's recommendation if there was an open complaint and that it would need to be addressed before the application could even be filed, but there were no formal complaints in the City's system, so that is why the request went forward. The property owner's desire is to construct a new garage, but given the size of his property and the previous location, he will not be able to do as he desires until he has the vacation because of the zoning requirements and the setbacks that are required of him.

Councilman Wobser appreciates what the rest of the committee members are saying and tends to agree, but asked how the applicant can get himself out of this since there has not been a complaint filed and there is no standard for what cleanup is. At this point, he has been told no until he cleans it up. Everyone's standard of cleanup is going to be different. He asked how this will be done in order to be fair to the applicant and anyone else who has a similar type situation. He asked what is clean and what isn't. This is similar to the grass issue in that it is difficult to determine what is tall grass and what isn't. Mayor Muryn replied that the City's desire is to allow citizens to utilize their property to the best of their abilities. This is a situation where the applicant is able to address the concerns of the property in making sure that homeowner is able to maintain his property appropriately, but contains items that may be somewhat of a sore spot in which this applicant would be able to do that by this reasonable request.

President of Council Harrington pointed out that the committee report has been passed recommending a denial and that an ordinance has been created for this that will be given three (3) readings. When that ordinance comes to a vote, each Councilmember can then express their desire based on the ordinance and not the committee report.

Councilman Haas asked if there are any violations on the property. Mayor Muryn replied that there is a vehicle and a RV/trailer parked in front of the house in the right-of-way area. Items that would be typically stored in a garage cannot be stored there because the garage had to be torn down because it was in poor condition. Councilman Haas noted that if all that is needed to pass the ordinance for this request is to let the applicant know what cleanup he needs to do, then that is what should be done. Mayor Muryn replied that the applicant would probably have to pay to have the vehicle and RV towed and stored while he submits the request and constructed a garage and then move everything into the garage.

Councilman Hellmann asked if a time element would be put on this to clean up the property. Mayor Muryn replied that there is a process, but she does not know the specifics of it. Because of this process, there are many cases that can go on for quite awhile. The initial cleanup process requires them to address it within thirty (30) days. After that, a second and third notice is sent and if not remedied, a criminal or civil action is taken.

Councilman Shindledecker pointed out that the intent of the committee was to see some progress on the property clean up while going through the three (3) readings of the ordinance which is six (6) weeks. There are a number of tires in the back of the property that could be stored efficiently and not spread about the back of the property. If the tires were removed/cleaned up, Council would most likely approve the request by the time the third (3rd) reading came up. Mayor Muryn replied the Zoning Department would be happy to work with and share Council's concerns with the applicant. In that case, she would request that the legislation move forward so this can be addressed in tandem.

All were in favor. Filed.

The **PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE** to whom was referred a request from Eric Emery/Tuckerman Development LLC on behalf of BDA Properties to rezone 253 (parcel #580000238260), 251 (parcel #580000238250), and 0 (parcel #580000238240) Madison Avenue. We recommend approval of the rezone as requested (Slough/Hellmann). Ordinance No. 2020-069 was created.

Discussion:

Councilman Slough moved to adopt the committee report, seconded by Councilman Hellmann. All were in favor. Filed.

LEGISLATION:

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 018-2020 requires three (3) readings

first reading

(5 year Capital Improvement Plan/Rainy Day Reserve Account)

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A FIVE YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN POLICY; A MINIMUM RESERVE BALANCE POLICY; AND A RAINY DAY RESERVE ACCOUNT AS PROMULGATED BY THE CITY AUDITOR'S OFFICE, AND REPEALING ALL RESOLUTIONS AND/OR PARTS OF RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT HEREWITH, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First reading of the Resolution.

RESOLUTION NO. 019-2020 (HB 481) requires three (3) readings

first reading

Adopted during OLD BUSINESS

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY AUDITOR OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO TO APPLY FOR AND UTILIZE THE CARES ACT FUND DOLLARS ON ELGIBLE EXPENDITURES SPECIFIED IN SECTION 5001 OF THE CARES ACT AND PURUSANT TO HOUSE BILL 481, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ORDINANCES:

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-033 (Airport hanger lease agreement) requires three (3) readings

tabled after second reading on 4/7/20

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO, TO NEGOTIATE AND ENTER INTO A NEW LAND LEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE BLANCHARD VALLEY PORT AUTHORITY FOR PURPOSES OF CONSTRUCTING A PROPOSED HANGER FACILITY AT THE FINDLAY AIRPORT FOR USE AND OPERATION BY MARATHON PETROLEUM CORPORATION.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-051 (farmland lease) requires three (3) readings

third reading - adopted

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE DIRECTOR OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO, TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT(S) TO FARM APPROXIMATELY ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY-ONE (181) ACRES IN THE VICINITY OF THE AIRPORT, APPROXIMATELY SIXTY-FOUR (64) ACRES IN THE VICINTY OF THE RESERVOIRS, AND APPROXIMATELY TWENTY-THREE (23) ACRES AT THE CARLIN STREET LOCATION, ALL OWNED BY THE CITY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilwoman Warnecke moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Greeno. Ayes: Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2020-051 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-054 (lane light project) requires three (3) readings

tabled after third reading 6/16/20

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING AND TRANSFERRING FUNDS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Wobser moved to table the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Shindledecker. Ayes: Haas, Hellmann, Palmer, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno. Nays: Niemeyer. The Ordinance was tabled.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-055 (Madison and Monroe sewer replacements) requires three (3) readings

third reading - adopted

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING AND TRANSFERRING FUNDS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Greeno moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Slough. Ayes: Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno, Haas. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2020-055 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-056 (2020 annual sewer televising program) requires three (3) readings

third reading - adopted

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING AND TRANSFERRING FUNDS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Greeno moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Palmer. Ayes: Niemeyer, Palmer, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2020-056 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-062 requires three (3) readings

third reading - adopted

(2020 Street Preventive Maintenance, Project No. 32800200; 2020 Sidewalk/Accessible Ramps, Project No. 32801700)

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING AND TRANSFERRING FUNDS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Slough moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Hellmann. Ayes: Palmer, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2020-062 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-068 (1020 Adams St vacation) requires three (3) readings

first reading

AN ORDINANCE VACATING A CERTAIN PORTION OF A CERTAIN ALLEY (HEREINAFTER REFERED TO AS 1020 ADAMS STREET VACATION) IN THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO.

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-069 (253, 251, 0 Madison Ave rezone) requires three (3) readings

first 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 253, 251, AND 0 MADISON AVENUE REZONE) WHICH PREVIOUSLY WAS ZONED "R2 SINGLE FAMILY MEDIUM DENSITY" TO C2 GENERAL COMMERCIAL.

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-070 requires three (3) readings

first reading

(Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Program grant)

adopted during OLD BUSINESS

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-071 (Stix Restaurant LLC RLF) requires three (3) readings

first reading - adopted

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING AND TRANSFERRING FUNDS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilwoman Warnecke moved to suspend the statutory rules and give the Ordinance its second and third readings, seconded by Councilman Wobser. Ayes: Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer. The Ordinance received its second and third readings. Councilman Slough moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Greeno. Ayes: Slough, Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Shindledecker. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2020-071 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-072 (Signed by Josette LLC RLF) requires three (3) readings

first reading - adopted

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING AND TRANSFERRING FUNDS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Slough moved to suspend the statutory rules and give the Ordinance its second and third readings, seconded by Councilwoman Warnecke. Ayes: Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Shindledecker, Slough. The Ordinance received its second and third readings. Councilman Wobser moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Palmer.

Discussion:

Councilwoman Warnecke asked if this business is actually Fastsigns of Findlay and used to be Signed by Josette. This Ordinance appears to be written backwards. Director Cordonnier replied Councilwoman Warnecke is correct in that it is Signed by Josette doing business as Fastsigns of Findlay. He does not write the RLFs. Another employee in his department does, so he is unsure if the check needs to be written to Signed by Josette. Mayor Muryn added that in the event that the legislation is written incorrectly in order to release the money, it can be changed as a clerical item.

Ayes: Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2020-072 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-073 (Modcraft LLC RLF) requires three (3) readings

first reading - adopted

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING AND TRANSFERRING FUNDS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Slough moved to suspend the statutory rules and give the Ordinance its second and third readings, seconded by Councilwoman Warnecke. Ayes: Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser. The Ordinance received its second and third readings. Councilman Slough moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Palmer. Ayes: Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2020-073 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-074 (FAA FY2020 Taxiway Alpha Rehabilitation Project grant) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading**
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY DIRECTOR OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO TO EXECUTE THE NECESSARY GRANT APPLICATION(S) TO RECEIVE GRANT FUNDS FROM THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OFFICE OF THE AVIATION FOR PAVEMENT REHABILITATION PROJECT OF THE CITY'S MAIN RAMP AREA, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Discussion:

Councilman Hellmann asked if there is a need to expedite this. Safety Director Schmelzer replied that it needs to be done by the 15th of July.

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-075 (ODOT lease City's Airport Auxiliary bldg) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading**
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO TO ENTER INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR LEASING OUT THE CITY OF FINDLAY'S AIRPORT AUXILIARY BUILDING LOCATED AT 1205 LIMA AVENUE, FINDLAY, OHIO, WAIVING FORMAL ADVERTISING AND BIDDING, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First reading of the Ordinance.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

OLD BUSINESS:

Mayor Muryn asked Council to reconsider Ordinance No. 2020-070 (*Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Program grant*) and waive the second (2nd) and third (3rd) reading and adopt it tonight so that the City can apply for that grant. Councilman Hellmann moved to reconsider the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Slough. Ayes: Niemeyer, Palmer, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann. Councilman Slough moved to suspend the statutory rules and give the Ordinance its second and third readings, seconded by Councilman Greeno. Ayes: Niemeyer, Palmer, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann. The Ordinance received its second (2nd) and third (3rd) readings. Councilman Slough moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Shindledecker. Ayes: Palmer, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2020-070 and is hereby made a part of the record.

Mayor Muryn asked Council to reconsider Resolution No. 019-2020 (HB 481) and waive the second (2nd) and third (3rd) readings and adopt it tonight so that the City can submit for the CARES Act funding. It is the funding that came in through the State of approximately three million dollars (\$3,000,000.00) that is being passed from the State to local municipalities that have less than five hundred thousand (500,000.00) individuals in which Findlay qualifies. She sent Council a spreadsheet and some information on tracking it. It has been passed by the House and is to be signed by the Governor any day now that will allow the City of Findlay to receive funding of approximately five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00). She is still seeking clarification on how the City will be able to use those funds towards payroll of safety-services or if they can only be used towards direct COVID expenses. As soon as Council approves this Resolution, then the City can submit to be in the State system to be able to receive dollars once they are released from the State.

Councilman Wobser moved to reconsider the Resolution, seconded by Councilman Greeno. Ayes: Slough, Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Shindledecker. Councilman Slough moved to suspend the statutory rules and give the Resolution its second and third readings, seconded by Councilman Wobser. Ayes: Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Shindledecker, Slough. The Resolution received its second (2nd) and third (3rd) readings. Councilman Wobser moved to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Councilman Greeno.

Discussion:

Councilman Hellmann asked how much money this entails. Mayor Muryn replied that it is in the email she sent out. The projected distribution is projected to be approximately five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00). It is based off of the 2018 local government fund distribution from the State. The County as a whole will receive two million four hundred thousand dollars (\$2,400,000.00). City Auditor Staschiak added that the complexities of the Federal Government is similar to working with FEMA during the flood issue in 2007. The sum depends on whether or not the State allows the City to use it as reimbursement for wages for the City's safety forces. A lot of effort, a lot of energy, and a lot of work has gone into this by the City Auditor's Office and the Mayor's Office. While it is hopeful that the City receives the entire five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) amount, it should not be the expectation that will happen.

Ayes: Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke. The Resolution was declared adopted and is recorded in Resolution Volume XXXIV, and is hereby made a part of the record.

City Auditor Staschiak brought up the Water Fund issue at the last City Council meeting. He, Councilman Wobser and Councilman Greeno all feel it is important for him to share some information with Council and encourage Councilmembers to attend the next WATER & SEWER COMMITTEE meeting. The Water Fund started this year with five million six hundred thousand dollars (\$5,600,000.00) and had almost ten million dollars (\$10,000,000.00) in 2017. If the entire Capital Plan is spent this year as planned including what Council has already adopted and with what is remaining, the year will end with approximately one million five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000.00) in the Water Fund which is not a lot of money. He projected that number out using the most recent update of the Capital Plan that the Service Director provided him. The book that Council received earlier this year projected those numbers out to 2025, assuming no increase in operational expenses, the number gets close to negative seven million dollars (-\$7,000,000.00) in the Water Fund which is a significant deficit. During the next Water & Sewer Committee meeting, he will recommend to fully update the Capital Plan for the Water Fund prioritizing by what is mandated, what is critical and necessary, and what is wanted and desired based on what is actually known by the condition of those resources today. He will also recommend that the current plan is re-evaluated or created as needed, an emergency action plan on some of the concerns that have been expressed over the last year or so by the Water Plant Superintendent to reflect what exact steps would take place if something goes wrong. For example, many years ago, AEP came within inches of puncturing the City's waterline. It should list the exact steps that would need to be taken if that should happen as it is a critical infrastructure which is one of the City's top priorities to repair. It should be known that the money is there to make the necessary repair and what steps would need to be taken so it is known how much that would cost, along with anything else that would be critical to review those plans so that it would be known today what to do if that would happen.

The third thing he would recommend would be to immediately review and de-appropriate an amount consistent with the average carry-forward to immediately recapture the cash difference between the appropriated current budget of two million eight hundred thousand dollars (\$2,800,000.00) and projected budget of one million five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000.00) and make that same review to the appropriated projects currently on the books. Right now, there is approximately one million four hundred thousand dollars (\$1,400,000.00) in unencumbered project money which may include some money that can be pulled back into that fund to protect the City to be in a position of an emergency that the City can move forward and take care of it with proper funds. Those are the recommendations he plans to make during the next WATER & SEWER COMMITTEE MEETING.

President of Council Harrington asked when the next WATER & SEWER COMMITTEE meeting is. Councilman Greeno replied that it will not be scheduled until the end of next month.

Councilman Wobser pointed out that Councilman Hellmann had asked why he tabled Ordinance No. 2020-054. He did so because of an email that sent to Councilmembers by Safety Director Schmelzer asking for more time so that the scope could be finalized for that project. Safety Director Schmelzer asked Council for the venue. One option would be for the Traffic Commission as they discuss a lot of issues relative to signalization and signage in which this would fall under that category. Councilmembers can attend a Traffic Commission meeting when this is discussed, or can have a separate meeting. The heart of the issues is related to the extent of the repair that will be required. The goal line keeps moving on him. He had a relatively solid solution from the lane light vendor and had funding taken care of for this repair and dropped the retention amount for the project for the original contractor who installed it. Since moving forward with those discussions, he received a further email from the lane light supplier who stated that in order to do this right, the installation requirements need to be modified, put different connectors in the lights which can also result in the need to move the base of the light. He would like to discuss with Council at the next City Council meeting or a Traffic Commission meeting, the additional manpower and cost that is going to be needed to do so, so that everyone is on the same page. He believes it is a great solution. His goal is to get it to the point where there is a full five (5) year warranty on this product. There is a lot of finger pointing between the contractor who installed it and the lane light supplier on the installation, so he would like to get past that. He would like to have a product that will not need a lot of maintenance and a product that the pedestrian has confidence in. While the failure rate has been relatively low, he is not sure that is the perception. He would like the opportunity to discuss everything with Council to get a consensus around the dollars. He does not believe it is a lot of money one way or the other which is not the point. The goal is to have a product installed that people can use to cross the street.

Councilman Wobser asked if this is the mid-block crossings. Safety Director Schmelzer replied that is correct. Councilman Wobser asked if the intent of this is to fix them correctly. Safety Director Schmelzer replied that is correct. He reviewed hours of video and has determined that the failure rate on the devices has been relatively low. When asking others about the failure rate, their perception is different. The City wants something that functions as close to one hundred percent (100%) as possible and be a product that pedestrians and motorists have confidence in and can visually see that it is operational. There still are many things with this that he is struggling with and wishes he could provide a direction to go on this, but currently cannot. He tried to time it up so that he would have that information by tonight, but does not have it yet, so he is asking Council to table it until he has all the information and after it has gone through the Traffic Commission or another venue of Council's choosing for discussion.

Councilman Hellmann asked if there is a need for vertical lights that would also signal when pedestrians are crossing instead of just having the ones in the pavement. Safety Director Schmelzer replied it depends on how "need" is defined. It is not needed from a transportation code perspective. The crosswalk lights that are already there are not needed. Only the white stripes on the pavement are required. The City is going above and beyond what is required by having another indicator for motorists that are possibly driving too fast, on their cell phone, or has any other type of distractions when someone is trying to cross the street. The lane lights have been very effective because they are out of the normal field of vision where there other kinds of distractions (i.e. street lights, flowers, signs from businesses) and are in the pavement where motorists and pedestrians are generally looking. When they are working, they are very effective. There are electrical issues as a result of installation errors and connectors in the lights. An alternative would be to acknowledge that there is not enough known about the system and go with a similar system to the flashing lights at Main Cross Street that are above grade where pedestrians push a button and those lights turn on signifying that a pedestrian is wanting to cross the street. When a pedestrian sees the lights are working, they then walk across. It is a very conventional system. It is a tried and true technology compared to what is there now. There is less maintenance long term and would still be an opinion of a more effective system than what is in place right now. Either would be fine or a combination of the two (2) would be fine. The City legally only has to paint white stripes in the road. Councilman Hellmann pointed out that motorists of three (3) or more cars back from the crosswalk cannot see why traffic is stopping with light only in the pavement. All is known is that traffic is stopped.

Councilman Wobser understands that the City has done what is needed by law, but that it has not taken care of the problem. He believes the current crosswalk lights would have been fine if Main Street would have been constructed as planned by having one lane both directions and reverse angled parking where motorists would have been going a lot slower. He feels the crosswalk lights are very important. He appreciates tabling this to give more time to ensure that the replacement crosswalk lights are the way to go.

President of Council Harrington asked when the next Traffic Commission meeting will be. Safety Director Schmelzer replied that it is always the third (3rd) Monday of each month at 2:30pm in the third floor conference room beside the Mayor's Office (CR1).

Safety Director Schmelzer noted that Ordinance No. 2020-075 (*Airport auxiliary building lease*) received its first reading tonight. He is still waiting on numbers for the repairs for the HVAC system. One quote he received is for four thousand five hundred dollars (\$4,500.00) and is waiting on a couple more quotes. His initial concerns was that the building would be rented out while still under repairs, but that does not appear to be the case. He feels it would be prudent from a financial standpoint to go ahead and lease the building out. It will be beneficial to ODOT. They are currently in another area right now that is not a big enough space for them. Instead of leasing another office building, they are going to scale that back and are looking to locate here for a year. By the next City Council meeting, he anticipates having final numbers and is asking that Council make a decision at that time because ODOT will want to know if they will be utilizing the City's building or not. The City does not have to competitively bid this lease out because it is being leased to a State agency.

Councilman Wobser asked if ODOT is willing to pay the City four thousand five hundred dollars (\$4,500.00) a month for a year or fifty-four thousand dollars (\$54,000.00) with the City looking into twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00) in repairs. Safety Director Schmelzer replied that is correct which is on the high side for repairs. The quote he received was for four thousand five hundred dollars (\$4,500.00) for repairs. Councilman Wobser noted that his letter stated twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00). Safety Director Schmelzer replied that was a previous estimate, but now it appears that it is better off than originally thought. He is waiting on some other quotes to compare to while looking at the scopes of work and be able to provide a ball park figure to confirm that the City will come out on the plus side. Councilman Wobser asked if there will be a viable use for the building after the repairs and ODOT's lease is up. Safety Director Schmelzer replied that it will depend on if anyone else wants to lease it or if the City wants to sell it. The work will be done and paid for by someone else (by ODOT leasing it) with the City having the opportunity to do something functional with the building.

Safety Director Schmelzer pointed out that he is proud to be in a County and City where the types of discussions that are happening can be held in a civil fashion. It is fortunate that we can appreciate everyone's ideas and comments. He commended the City's Police Department. While he is very far from being a Police Officer, he is very fortunate that there are individuals willing to do so. There are bad people in this world that wake up every day and go to work. A month ago when COVID was going on, the expectation was that whomever needed help, our Officers went to them and helped simply by wearing a mask and did not hear a single complaint from any of the First Responders, nor did he hear any complaints about a legitimate behavioral issue from any Officer about diversity. Any comments or questions about the City's budget will probably be addressed with the Administration versus the City Auditor. The Administration is open to discussion. He reiterated how proud he is to be represented and associated with the City of Findlay Police Department.

Councilman Haas pointed out that the City Police Department goes through a lot of training that they take very seriously which is the way they live. They take that training and apply it.

Mayor Muryn echoed Safety Director Schmelzer and Councilman Haas's comments and is currently working with the Police Department on a weekly column to be in the newspaper that will focus around the City's Police Department and all of the things they do. The City of Findlay is very fortunate to have a wonderful Police Department that steps up and has very few issues. When thinking of Police Officers who put on a uniform, they are thought of as soldiers. Many qualifiers are placed around how they serve the community which is something important for everyone to remember. They go through an extreme amount of training on diversity, bias, de-escalation, crisis intervention, and proper use of force. Less than six percent (6%) of the Police force in the State of Ohio are accredited through CALEA which is an extremely scrutinized system that Findlay Police Officers go through. It is a standard that Findlay holds themselves accountable to by intention. They are here to serve the community and are held to a higher standard that we are extremely proud of. The men and women in uniform in Findlay Ohio hold themselves to an extremely high standard. She is confident that Findlay's percentages are extremely low when faced with a situation seen in other communities, not just because of what the current Administration does every day, but because Findlay's Officers are a team that holds each other accountable and have the expectation of each other, which is the culture that has been created and expected. There will be more to follow on that. Findlay's Police Department does a wonderful job. It is an uncomfortable conversation. It is a touchy conversation in many cases, but is important. A number of individuals from the community came before Council tonight to provide their perspective on it. It is dialog that needs to continue to happen as it is not about putting a rubber stamp on it, but makes a statement. It is about a culture, about setting an expectation, and setting an example. There are a lot of things Findlay can do to make sure it is a community where everyone is welcome and included. It does not mean everyone has to agree, believe the same things, or live the same way, but is one where we recognize that everyone has constitutional freedoms that they are allowed to have and can go from there. Council will continue to have conversations and determine how to the community can set an example and be a welcoming place.

Mayor Muryn asked Council to review the Income Tax report that she has been sending on a weekly basis that the City Income Tax Administrator has been putting together. The CIT Administrator just sent out another report just this afternoon providing her with a heads up that he felt there will be a significant adjustment today. As of 2:00pm today, there is an additional two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000.00) that came in within the last twenty-four (24) hours making the City of Findlay right around a negative ten percent (-10%) year-over-year month-to-date compared to end of month in 2019. There is not currently a huge impact in the individual and employer base income tax, but withholding still holds firm. The Administration is keeping an eye on the numbers.

Mayor Muryn noted that the Census is still going on and asked those that have not completed it to do so. President of Council Harrington asked if Census workers will be going door-to-door for those that have not been contacted by any other method. Mayor Muryn replied they will be. The original timeline to go out canvassing was in April, but has been postponed until late July through September with final numbers into the Census Bureau by mid-October. The count is by address. Approximately eighty percent (80%) of addresses in Hancock County have completed the Census. Hancock County has already surpassed the 2010 Census response rate. She plans to send an update later this week to all the townships and villages in Hancock County to provide them an update and to remind them to continue to post and promote it. It can be done online at my2020census.gov or can request it via mail (hard copy), or over the telephone.

Councilman Hellmann asked for an explanation of what CALEA is. Mayor Muryn replied that it is the accrediting body who do the Police accreditation for Canada, United States and Mexico and may also do so internationally. They are the accrediting body. Hospitals, universities and other organizations are accredited. Law enforcement agencies can also go through it. It is a very strenuous application process where an auditor comes in and does a very extensive review (i.e. use of force, decision-making metrics, complaints, etc.). A publicized meeting was conducted here where anyone could have come and shared complaints and concerns. It is a full extensive process that law enforcement maintains. The City of Findlay Police Department was originally accredited in 2012.

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilman Shindledecker noted that Council received a letter supporting the DORA project. He asked if the dimensions are known. Mayor Muryn replied that the DORA project is with the downtown entertainment district where there can be open containers with a number of restrictions around them. It is something that has been looked at a number of times. She has been communicating with a number of downtown restaurateurs who have brought it up as an idea where she has expressed that the City will be supportive to the extent that they need to show the City that it is going to be beneficial to them and that they have the support from the other restaurants because it can be very operationally challenging. It looks like a great idea, but has a lot of restrictions that can be a problem and costly to some of the restaurants. This is only being discussed at this point and has not been organized nor has she received enough support from the restaurants themselves where it is proven that they have wanted to bring it forward.

It would most likely be within the boundaries of the Downtown Findlay Improvement District (DFID) so that if someone were eating at a restaurant and then wanted to walk over to a show at the Marathon Center for the Performing Arts, they would have that flexibility. There have been some requests to shut down some roads (i.e. Crawford Street) to provide more outdoor seating to which she spoke at length with the restaurants who stated that they are able to set up café seating in front of their restaurants which is what they prefer to do so that patrons can sit and enjoy a drink and hang out. Liquor licenses are required for outdoor dining when shutting a road down in which the road has to be blocked off with a specific entity that is responsible for serving alcohol. If an entity does not have a liquor license for that area, then they cannot have open containers. At this point, restaurants have said that they are flexible enough that they can have their own seating outdoors, but have not pushed for that to happen.

Councilman Wobser noted that either a COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE or an APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE needs to be set up to discuss the Rainy Day Reserve Account via Resolution No. 018-2020. He asked what Council would prefer to do. President of Council asked Councilmembers to raise their hand if they are in favor of a COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE meeting, then he asked them to raise their hand if they want an APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE meeting in which it was a tie vote. President of Council Harrington replied that as President of a legislative body, he is authorized to decide which meeting to have, so he decided it should be a COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE meeting as it is an important subject that all Councilmembers should be involved with.

President of Council Harrington: **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE** meeting on Tuesday, June 23, 2020 at 5:00pm in the first floor Council Chambers of the Municipal Building (CC).

agenda: Rainy Day Reserve Account via Resolution No. 018-2020

Councilman Hellmann moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Niemeyer. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:43pm.

CLERK OF COUNCIL

COUNCIL PRESIDENT