

MINUTES FROM COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF NORTH CANTON
MONDAY, JUNE 25, 2018

1. Call to Order

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Okay, I'd like to call to order the Council Meeting Monday, June 25, 2018, 7:00 p.m.

2. Opening Prayer – Pastor Emil Gretarsson, Associate Pastor, Holy Cross Lutheran Church gave the opening prayer.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Roll Call

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Clerk, please call the roll.

Roll call found the following Council members in attendance: Cerreta, Foltz, Fonte, Kiesling, Peters, Revoldt and Werren.

Thus having 7 in attendance.

Also present: Mayor Held, Director DeOrio, Law Director Fox and Finance Director Brown.

5. Consideration

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: All right, thank you very much. At this time, motion and a second to approve as presented:

Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes: June 4, 2018

Council Meeting Minutes: June 11, 2018

Financial Reports: May 2018

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: Motion to approve as presented.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Second.

Unanimous voice vote of 7 to approve the above minutes and reports.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, Madam Clerk, for the record I will be abstaining for June 11th Council Meeting minutes.

6. Recognition of Visitors:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: All right, at this time, if you wish to address Council please step forward, state your name and address.

CHUCK OSBORNE: (read from a prepared statement) 307 Fairview Street SE, North Canton, Ohio. My comments tonight are in response to the Repository's report of last week's Council of the Whole meeting. Titled "Heated debate on North Canton's income tax increase." That news report coupled with a, with 17 years of my observations of the actions of North Canton City government is the basis for my remarks tonight. In regards to the debate over the proposed 10 year, .5% income tax increase to fund a new safety center, Councilmembers Cerreta and Werren suggested that the City hold focus groups. Councilmember Kiesling responded stated "we've got to be visionaries. The seven of us are the visionaries. Not a focus group. We are the focus group." I have not seen much vision in North Canton City Council for a great many years. First, the plan for a safety center has languished since 1999. Why has it taken nearly 20 years for the realization of safety center? No vision here. Second, continuing to mistakenly believe yourselves, and mistakenly mislead citizens of North Canton, that it is possible to keep the City's income tax rate artificially low for these last many years. Keep the rate low for another 10 years and then return to the current artificial income tax at the end of that 10 year term, is not financially sound vision. And further to tell taxpayers that the City can revert later back to the City's 1.5% income tax rate, is sheer ignorance. At the very least. And deceitful at most. North Canton's artificially low income tax rate assignably maintain to lure new business to town, has not resulted in new business, because there is no open space available for development in the City. North Canton has no available properties for business growth. And has not for many years. This problem could be remedied through an ongoing annexation policy. But this has not happened. No vision here. And why not adjust the City's tax reciprocity so that all residents share in the cost of the City's safety center? I will not recommend the income tax increase unless all City residents share in the cost of building this most vital City facility. Third, and quite ironically, on the Committee of the Whole agenda for last week, was a discussion to restart the City's CRA tax abatement program. Wow. One minute you are discussing a proposed income tax increase to generate vitally needed revenue for the City, and moments later you are discussing ways in which you give away tax dollars, desperately needed by the North Canton City School District. No vision here. School Superintendent Jeff Wendorf made it clear to this body on September 26, 2016 in public remarks, and in writing that the North Canton City School District was adamantly opposed to CRA tax abatements. City residents have repeatedly opposed the CRA tax abatements, which historically benefit for profit corporations, and bank roll

multimillionaire developers. As elected representatives, you are bound to listen to your constituents. Fourth, recently there was an opportunity for the City to increase income tax collections with the annexation of property on the City's western border that would have resulted in 75 high paying medical jobs. City Council led by Councilmember Cerreta proposed legislation to allow access to City water for OMNI Orthopedics without annexing into the City, as City policy requires despite the fact that annexation of this property was vital to the economic growth of North Canton. No vision here. I have not seen a self-sustaining financial vision that is viable for the City of North Canton for nearly two decades. Instead, I see an artificially low income tax rate crafted to attract businesses to location that do not exist in the City. I see a populous that does not contribute income tax dollars to the community in which they reside. I see a populous that will not be asked to contribute to the construction of a vitally needed safety center. And I see a City Council that turns it back on economic growth when it is on the City's doorstep. I would have to agree with Mrs. Kiesling, that this City needs visionaries. But unfortunately, there are none to be found in these chambers. Thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, Chuck. Anyone else wishing to address please step forward.

SCOTT KELLEY: 232 Woodrow NW. I'm here to about the .5% income tax increase. I am against it. I'm not against our safety forces. I just question the timing and the funding of this. Like Mr. Osborne said, 30% of the people are going to be paying for something 100% of the citizens and visitors of North Canton will use. Is that fair? I don't think so. And I think about 4 out of 7 of you aren't even affected by our income tax, because you work outside the City. So, how can you that aren't even affected by it, be voting for this?

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: But we pay into the City.

SCOTT KELLEY: Okay, okay, okay, but, okay through this. Is this, is this your full-time job. This is not your full-time job.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Let him finish. This is not a back and forth. Let him finish.

SCOTT KELLEY: Mr. Foltz works in the City of Canton, does he not? Okay, you pay a little, because you about \$7,000 a year. Being Council, maybe a little more for Council President. But it's not affecting you. Like it is affecting me. It's affecting me 100%. I have one full-time job, I work for Plain Township. Okay. So you're asking 30% to pay for 100% of this. Okay. Didn't like the school levy, because it was an increase in income tax. But you know what? Everybody was taxed. That was fair. It's not fair that you're only 30% of us. I finally made top rate at my job. Finally. Finally. I'm right here. Imagine yourself in water, and you're on your flat feet and you can breathe. Right. With this last property tax passed by the school, I'm going to be paying about \$2,960 in property taxes for a house built in 1952. If this next levy passes in August, I'll be paying \$3,028 a year in property tax for a house built 1952. Okay. We negotiate in March in Plain Township, who's to say I'm going to get a pay raise? Okay. I'm here now, I can breathe. I've got breathing room. If this goes through, my first paycheck of the month, because Mr. Fonte, you're a realtor, how do most people for their taxes and insurance? They roll it into their mortgage payment, do they not? And how do they pay for that mortgage? Through their paycheck right? One paycheck, I'll have \$150.00 to get me through till the next paycheck. My daughter is in gymnastic and baton, she loves it. Do you think I'm going to have to quit that? I've got to find something else? Right? Maybe you should think, and Mr. Mayor, during our campaign and our editorial board interview you said one of the smartest things you did was not raise the City income tax. Why now is it okay? Are you not running for reelection in two years? So, you can go ahead and raise the rates. I mean I just talked to Mrs. Stroia before here, and the City's current levy, the school district's current 4.5 mill levy expires in December of '19. Why don't you have a property tax ready to go at 4.5 mill January 1, 2020? When that expires. I'm not going to see a difference. I'm going to be paying the same. But then again, everybody is going to be paying. Right. I'm not against the safety center. Okay. I worked in those buildings. I get it. Okay. This is, I just question the timing. How can we bring this up now, when we just passed a school levy? My property tax is going to go up \$353. We've got another special election in August. If that passes, now that goes up to \$428. Okay, extra a year. So now I'm at \$3,028, you're passing this. And Ms. Brown says "well, she doesn't want to burden the other 70% of the people, you know, because they pay, you know, outside the city. How is that fair? That you're only going to tax 30% of the people. It's not right. You people need to think.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you. Okay, anyone else wishing to address Council, please step forward state your name and address.

LARRY TRIPP: (read from a prepared statement) 1127 East Maple, North Canton. In observing, listening, and reading of the proposed 1.5% City income tax increase for North Canton residents. I am of the opinion that Council as a whole is quite reluctant to place this issue on the ballot this November. Members Foltz, Cerreta and Fonte have opening voiced their opinions during the past couple weeks, and each indicate hesitation. That this is the path the City should take at the present time. Recently during the Council meeting at Walsh College, Mr. Cerreta spoke as an education about the wishbone and backbone, as they pertain to leadership. As such, I would believe and expect the three of you to use your backbone in a no vote as Ordinance No. 48 – 2018 comes for a vote tonight. Take this, table this until more facts are known and residents given more opportunity to question and voice their opinion. Hold a couple town hall meetings. Vote no tonight. Or if you have changed your mind, and vote yes, please explain your new position during your Council reports. For that, I would thank you. From a monetary standpoint, I readily admit this issue does not affect me personally. Being a senior citizen. However, from a mistrust of government, from top to local level, and now particularly at the local level, Ordinance No. 48 – 2018 as written has too many unanswered questions from me to vote yes, should this issue be placed before for the voters. Questions that immediately come to mind are, why was the issue just brought to light to an unexpected audience in early June? And now being rushed to meet an August deadline. Why not wait until the spring of 2018? What is the cost of the building going to be? I read you'd have no idea. Ten million, 12

million? A lot of difference, \$2 million. What's the cost? Let the people know. Where's the building be located? Again, why would I vote for something not knowing where it's going to be? Why are operating costs built into the issue? Why are there even thoughts of purchasing land? Can Station 1 be enlarged and renovated to accommodate all facets of our safety force? Could City Hall be renovated to accommodate the Police by eliminating garages, the entrance down there make office? A lot of ways to go. What impact have you received from the Hoover District or Walsh College? Could land to the north of Station 1 be used? As I read these, as I read the Ordinance No. 48 – 2018 and pondered some of the questions I just passed you, I'm immediately think of the many times Mrs. Baughman has reminded me of Bernie Sanders while running for president stating "U.S. voters are stupid." Well, he may have a point. I don't think North Canton residents are that stupid to vote for something they do not have any knowledge on. And lastly, City Council members is visionary. Mrs. Kiesling, where was Council's visions when 2016 you approved \$175,000.00 for Station 2. Had to hold a special election for EMS in 2017. Having a special election knowing that you might place a .5%. Building islands on Maple, and then demolishing. City Hall not funded last year, but now an additional what, couple hundred thousand this year? Are those the ones of vision? Hardly. As Cleveland Shortstop Francisco Lindor would say "visionaries, you've got to be kidding me." Thanks.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Anyone else wishing to address Council, please step forward state your name and address.

MELANIE J ROLL: (read from a prepared statement) 308 Portage. I've been attending these meetings about a dozen years. And sitting and listening to dialogue of Council and the administration discussing City policy, I'm guessing might be different than you have your conversations. It's much easier to hear the nuances of folks when you're listening, rather than when you're in the conversation. You pick up things that maybe some of you don't during your discussions. During the last two meetings, during the discussion of the combined safety center, the arguments seem identical to the discussion of needed school buildings in meetings of the board of education in the summer of 2017. Both the need for new schools buildings and a safety center are sound. The question has been, how to pay for each? I'm still alarmed at the notion the schools need to stay with property tax. And the City will use income tax to generate revenue. Those I heard through the nuances of various people talking "stay in your own lane, so forth." You want the schools to do property tax, you want to do income tax. Doesn't the City tap into property tax for many of the levies, and has taken money the voters had allotted to the schools through the CRA program? As far as the 2017 school levy, was it too ambitious? Probably so. Did the schools do a good job of selling those levies? There were two, of course, the income and the property. Probably they did not. So, now it's the City's turn to persuade the voters to increase their taxes. Two suggestions. (1) The income tax to 2% as your legislation proposes. But keep the credit rate for those working outside of North Canton at 1.5%. Taxpayers who live in North Canton would help pay for City services. (2) Define where you want the new safety center to be. The argument of not disclosing the location because of possible ramification with landowners who might want to sell. I think is bogus and makes voters uneasy. But that's just the way you want to go. Finally, if I could ask Ms. Brown to clarify, how many tax forms are filed with the City most years? And how many North Canton residents actually pay income tax? You have this 30%, but it's ambiguous. So, if you could clarify some of those things that would be helpful. Thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, Melanie. Okay, anyone else wishing to address Council, please step forward, state your name and address. Last call. Okay, onto old business. May I have a motion and second to read by title only, the second reading of Ordinance No. 46 – 2018?

COUNCILMAN REVOLDT: So moved.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Second.

Unanimous voice vote of 7 to read by title only the second reading of Ordinance No. 48 - 2018.

7. Old Business

8. Ordinance No. 46 - 2018

Personnel and Safety Committee

An ordinance authorizing the Mayor of the City of North Canton, Ohio, to enter into a successor collective bargaining agreement between the City and the Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association, Dispatch and Lead Dispatcher, regarding State Employment Relations Board ("SERB") Case No. 2017-MED-10-1312, and declaring the same to be an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Daryl?

COUNCILMAN REVOLDT: I move that we amend this ordinance to reinsert the emergency clause, which we deleted last week when we considered it. We do need an emergency clause. It does not have it currently.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: Second.

Unanimous voice vote of 7 to amend Ordinance No. 46 – 2018 to include the emergency clause.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: All right, thank you. We'll do the same thing for Ordinance No. 47 – 2018, I'm assuming, correct?

COUNCILMAN REVOLDT: That it is.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: All right, motion to adopt the second reading or Ordinance No. 46 – 2018 as amended.

COUNCILMAN REVOLDT: So moved.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: Second.

Unanimous voice vote of 7 to adopt the second reading of amended Ordinance No. 46 – 2018.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you. Motion and a second to suspend the rules of Council.

COUNCILMAN REVOLDT: So moved.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Second.

Unanimous voice vote of 7 yes to suspend the rules for three readings for Ordinance No. 46 – 2018.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: And a motion and a second to adopt under suspension for Ordinance No. 46 – 2018

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: So moved.

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: Second.

Unanimous voice vote of 7 yes to adopt under suspension for Ordinance No. 46 - 2018.

ORDINANCE NO. 46 - 2018 WAS PASSED BY A UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE OF 7 YES.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: All right, thank you. May I have a motion and second to read by title only, the second reading of Ordinance No. 47 - 2018.

COUNCILMAN REVOLDT: So moved.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: Second.

Unanimous voice vote of 7 to read by title only the second reading of Ordinance No. 47 - 2018.

9. Ordinance No. 47 - 2018 Personnel and Safety Committee

An ordinance authorizing the Mayor of the City of North Canton, Ohio, to enter into a successor collective bargaining agreement between the City and the Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association, Patrol Officers, regarding State Employment Relations Board ("SERB") Case No. 2017-MED-10-1313, and declaring the same to be an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: All right, thank you. Tim covered this in the last meeting. Any questions? I want to thank him for his hard work on both of these, by the way. We greatly appreciate it. Motion and a second to adopt the second reading of Ordinance No. 47 – 2018.

COUNCILMAN REVOLDT: So moved.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Second.

Unanimous voice vote of 7 yes to adopt the second reading of Ordinance No. 47 - 2018.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you. Motion and a second to suspend the rules of Council.

COUNCILMAN REVOLDT: So moved.

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: Second.

Unanimous voice vote of 7 yes to suspend the rules for three readings for Ordinance No. 47 – 2018.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: And a motion and a second to adopt under suspension for Ordinance No. 47 – 2018

COUNCILMAN REVOLDT: So moved.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Second.

Unanimous voice vote of 7 yes to adopt under suspension for Ordinance No. 47 - 2018.

ORDINANCE NO. 47 - 2018 WAS PASSED BY A UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE OF 7 YES.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: All right, thank you. May I have a motion and second to read by title only, the first reading of Ordinance No. 48 - 2018.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: So moved.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: So moved.

Unanimous voice vote of 7 to read by title only the first reading of Ordinance No. 48 - 2018.

10. New Business

11. Ordinance No. 48 - 2018

Finance and Property Committee

An ordinance amending Chapter 192, Income tax, of the Codified Ordinances of the City of North Canton, to increase the rate of municipal income tax from 1.5 to 2.0 percent for a period of 10 years, January 1, 2019 until December 31, 2028, for the purpose of providing additional safety funding for construction of a new safety building to house Police, Dispatch, and Fire/EMS operations, supporting Fire/EMS staffing, providing additional training opportunities for safety forces, and to create a resource for future maintenance of the safety building.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Chairwoman Werren.

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: Thank you. So, we've been talking about this for a couple weeks now. And Laura had a couple more questions that people submitted to her. So we'll let her talk about that. I don't know if any of you had any questions from constituents this week. Or if you looked up anything. Or thought about how different communities have gone about this. Or have any suggestions. Both chiefs are here, again. So, if there's anything specific that they need to answer, they can do that as well. But we do continue to talk about it, and really, you know, they talked about different ways we can do this. In the end, it's going to be up to the voters to decide if they want it. So, we're not pushing this through. We're not jamming it through. These are the public meetings. This is a public meeting. It's now been, thanks to Jessica, on the front page of the paper at least once. Last week it was on the front of the local section. So we've had, you know, decent coverage about it. And kind of in the community you'll hear both sides. But that's what everybody's supposed to do. And they can weigh in and come here on those different Monday nights to talk about it. Daryl, you had a thought about one, maybe change in the... .

COUNCILMAN REVOLDT: Yes, if I could draw your attention to the actual ordinance itself. Not the short title. But, I would like Council to consider amending this document to delete in the introduction "supporting Fire/EMS staffing." That's continued down in the fourth whereas "as well as funding an increase in Fire/EMS staffing." That's not the purpose of our proposal. And then in section 1, again we recommend that you'll find language about funding an increase Fire/EMS staffing. Again, that's outside of the purview of this particular ordinance, our discussion. I would recommend that those, this be amended upon its first adoption by deleting those items.

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: Okay, so really focusing on the building at hand, and not the staffing hasn't been an issue.

COUNCILMAN REVOLDT: Yes, and I think that is, you know, to one of the questions, or one of the concerns was that we were going to drift in and make this permanent. Our intent has been to fund the structure. And then sunset the tax.

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: You know, and I think some people commented, did we just spring this on people? Well, I mean, it can be, I guess related to when you have a house. And all of a sudden your roof needs attention, and all of a sudden you wait and you wait. And then you say you have to do something. I think that's what we kind of came to, and there was discussions that, again have been happening for many, many years. And it came up and now we're giving it almost 2.5 months to talk about it. So...

FINANCE DIRECTOR BROWN: Sure, thank you. This week I had three questions come in from residents. One kind of goes to the point that Daryl was just making. And that was a question actually from Mr. Tripp. He called my office last Tuesday. Will the money from this levy be placed in the General Fund and used for operations? And no, by law the money from levy would have to be placed in a special fund. Because that's what's going, or go on the ballot before voters. It could only be used for safety purposes. After the debt would be paid off of the building, and the building maintenance is funded any additional revenue could be used for one time purchases. Such as specialized training, which is mentioned in the ordinance. Or let's say a new technology or a new piece of equipment that increases efficiency or safety long term. Because this is a tax that would expire after 10 years, we wouldn't want to, as you said, drift over into operational cost, like personnel. So, I think editing that language makes that even more clear, that we don't want to, you know, you never want to be the City has to lay someone off because the money has run out. The second question I got, was actually from my next door neighbor. He said that most of the coverage that he had seen and things that he heard had focused on the impact on residents. But he's a small business owner, and so he asked me how that would impact him. And I said if your business is located in North Canton, and you're earning a net profit on your business, then that net profit would be taxed at 2% rather than 1.5. So, I just wanted to make that clear. In addition, if you were

a business that has employees in North Canton and you're withholding from their paychecks, that withholding percentage would again, go from 1.5 to 2. The financial impacts on the employee, but, you know, it would be a change in the employer's process just to code in that different number in there. Payroll software, whatever they might use. The third question that I got from multiple residents and people that I talked to, and you've heard it a couple of times here tonight was about reciprocity. You know, why aren't we having more people share in this tax? And Mr. Tripp had asked me about this when he had called me. And my comment to him was, there's no perfect tax. There's no tax that will impact every single resident of the City. If you do property tax, of course, you have people who don't own property. And thus don't pay that. If you increase the rate, you tax people that work in the City, some of whom are residents and some of whom are nonresidents. That drive into work. And then if you change the credit or the reciprocity, that's directly impacting the residents who may work elsewhere. But you're never going to capture everyone. Because, of course, there's some people with no income at all. Like you know folks that are retired or have no income. So, there is no silver bullet, no magic, perfect tax. You know, if Council wanted to consider some sort of combination between the rate and the credit that is their option. I believe, Tim could correct me if I'm wrong, that the credit is a function of Council voting, whereas the rate has to go before voters. And then finally because I don't want to forget Melanie, I don't have the number of tax forms filed in front of me. But I will get that information.

COUNCILMAN FONTE: Question I have. So, the safety center concept is really good and important, and I agree with it. Just like I agree with schools need help too. The thing I wasn't sure on was the funding mechanism. You know, like when I looked at Jackson Township, they got a big donation. Maybe there's some silent person out there that would like to make a big donation. As a possibility. So I'd like to make that a public request. Anybody that would like to offer millions of dollars that would be a nice thing. And it will go down in history. The other thing is that, instead of 10 years is it possible to make it 7 years? Or is it possible to just have a limit on what we want to do? Because I believe that the income tax will continue to increase as we evolve into more people moving to the community. That's my wish. And the other thing is that, is there language from a legal standpoint Law Director Fox that if we hit a threshold it automatically extinguishes. Instead of 10 years, maybe it might extinguish in 6 if we're doing really well. If we hit our mark. So, the mark might be \$12 million for the building, and maybe \$4 million in a reserve fund. Or something like that. Instead of \$12 million we could stretch it out 10 year plan. So, I just wanted to know, is that language, could it be manipulated to be able to do that. Is there a way if we're doing better as a whole in the City, that we can back that off. You know, I mean it's true we are the lowest all around we're at 1.5%. You know, I guess it's possible we could raise it eventually, but I'm just thinking, you know, I always like to wait until the last resort. Because it does cost a lot of money for people that are earning money and trying to raise families. Just a thought.

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: Laura, I think you talked about this last week a little bit too. So...

FINANCE DIRECTOR BROWN: Right, and I can just address the, you know, the wishing and hoping that we keep increasing our tax. And I do as well. However, when I'm going to forecast something, last year was our record year on income tax in the last good while, if not ever. As far back as I can find records. I can't forecast based on the best case scenario. I have to do it on a look back. So, if we were collecting this tax on 2017 revenue, yes it would be about \$2.3 million a year. But if you look back even five years and take an average, it's only about \$2 million a year. So, that's what I've used in the calculations and that's what I feel comfortable with. Obviously, if Council chooses to put some other language in there, that's your option. And it's voter's option to vote yes or no.

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: But you also commented last week how if it was a 10 year bond you could have a no fee penalty where in 7 or 8 years we said "hey, we're good," you could say "that's it."

FINANCE DIRECTOR BROWN: Yes, we absolutely could structure the bonds so that it was callable after 7 or 8 years. And those bonds would be called and paid off. At that point, then you have to decide what you're going to do about the tax. Do you continue to collecting it, or do you then shut it off at that time. And I think that maybe is what... .

COUNCILMAN FONTE: I think the comments that I have received personally, is that once you put it in, it will never go away. And the thing is, it's like, you know, you always want to make sure that we're doing everything we can. I mean, a lot of times, we are doing everything we can. It doesn't seem that way. Sometimes people don't see it that way. So we always have to demonstrate we will go above and beyond to be transparent on what we're doing with our dollars. So, that when we do raise it, you know, the people are going to be 100% behind us.

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: Well, and I mean they have to vote that. So again that goes back to the public.

COUNCILMAN FONTE: I agree. I know but we want it be, I mean we want to not miss the mark. We want to make sure we're, it's just the schools when they put it out there. They were hoping it would pass, and it was defeated, you know, 72% or 73%. So that was, you know, we don't want that to happen. We want to make sure we're, our gauge is correct when we put it out there.

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: Okay, any other questions anyone received?

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: The only debate I've had with people, or comments, is where it's going to be built. I'm a little uncomfortable with that. I'm for the safety forces building for our police and fire, I think it's needed. I don't want it across the street in the greenspace. So, if that vote came up, I would be a no. I think it's got to be on Main Street. I think we've got to get, we just really need to take this seriously, and make sure that we use every avenue we can to build it in a place that's not going to affect the neighborhoods. Or other opportunities for greenspace that's needed for events down the road. I just think it's a bad fit across the street.

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: Have you heard something that we haven't heard?

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: Well, I'm just saying. I, maybe its rumor. I just want to take that off the table right now. I don't want it to be a situation where voters are saying "well, it might go there, I'm going to vote no, because it's going to go there."

DIRECTOR DEORIO: Well, categorically let me just say without any ambiguity, that we are only interested in Main Street. We're not interested in any side street to Main Street. Not interested in the Charlotte Avenue property, have no intention of being involved in taking a greenspace and turning it into something that would be a place for another municipal building. That is not our intent. Now, as far as, where on Main Street, yeah, I guess we're just going to have a philosophical difference on the approach. To me, being in business, you know, I would like some flexibility in order to get the best price. But if you go out and target the exact spot that you want to get and that person says "well, it's yours for \$10 million." Well, that's why we're approaching it in this way. Is that we are committing to the voters that it will not be in a neighborhood. We want to get it out of the neighborhood. The EMS building that's on 7th Street. We want that out. We want it on Main Street. And according to the chiefs, as long as they have direct access to Main Street that will not affect their ability to respond in an emergency situation. So, just wanted to make that clear. Thank you for the opportunity.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: Appreciate that clarification. I think that goes a long way with some voters here. Thank you.

COUNCILMAN FONTE: So this calls for, this is for Tim. Tim, does there need to be legal language in here for it to self-extinguish? Or is there a certain threshold? Or is that just something we just call the action to cancel it.

COUNCILMAN REVOLDT: It's in the first paragraph of the ordinance. Its self-extinguishes on December 31, 2028.

COUNCILMAN FONTE: No, no, I meant instead of stretching it out 10, if we can do it quicker. That's all I'm saying.

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: The way the bond would be though, she would figure that out. That would be up to our Finance Director.

COUNCILMAN FONTE: So, does it automatically cancel out if we hit a mark, or do we have to call action.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: No, it would take an action of Council.

COUNCILMAN FONTE: Okay.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: I've had more than a handful of comments, particularly because the EMS building resides in my ward. The folks up and down that street are ecstatic, that building is coming out, that the operations are going to be moving to Main Street. Especially the ones that work second shift. And one of the other comments, criticisms that I received was "how can you consider this after you've made an addition to the EMS building?" And I inquired for that as well. And the situation was, and I'm not sure if anyone realizes this, you had male and female EMS personnel sleeping in the same room. Overnight. That, I don't know if you would have a problem with your wife sleeping in the same room with other man. It just opened up a can of worms that we didn't want to go down. And it was immediate. That need was immediate.

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: And the chief talked about that the other day.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Chief did talk about it. So, that's why we did that. Because it was the right thing to do. So, that was that. And that's basically the only comments that I've received. Other than that, you know, in my ward I have a lot of senior citizens, they are in favor. I mean they rely and our proud of our safety services. So, that's where I'm at.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Well, I'll second the motion to amend.

COUNCILMAN REVOLDT: For the record in paragraph 1 "supporting Fire/EMS staffing." In the third whereas "Fire/EMS staffing is necessary to reduce the cost of supplemental staffing of full-time employees." Delete that. And the fifth whereas "as well as funding as increase in Fire/EMS staffing." And then finally in section 1, "as well as funding an increase in Fire/EMS staffing." Delete all.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Four different sections, right? That's what I'm counting.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Correct.

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: Yes.

COUNCILMAN FONTE: So, do we get the question answered?

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Okay, so there was a motion to amend. There was a second. Please call the roll.

Unanimous voice vote of 7 to amend Ordinance No. 48 – 2018 to delete said language.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Okay, back to the chair.

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: Okay.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: You ready to call for a vote?

COUNCILMAN REVOLDT: Yes, I move we adopt the first reading of Ordinance No. 48 – 2018 as amended.

Voice vote of 7 yes, 1 nay to adopt the first reading of Ordinance No. 48 – 2018. Fonte voted nay.

ORDINANCE NO. 48 – 2018 WAS GIVEN FIRST READING.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: All right, thank you. May I have a motion and second to read by title only, the first reading of Ordinance No. 49 - 2018.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: So moved.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: Second.

Unanimous voice vote of 7 yes to read by title only the first reading of Ordinance No. 49 - 2018.

12. Ordinance No. 49 - 2018 Finance and Property Committee

An ordinance authorizing the supplemental appropriation of funds of the City of North Canton to be appropriated from the unappropriated resources of the Park Development Fund to the Facilities Account in the amount of \$750,000.00 for the current expenses during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you. Chairwoman Werren.

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: So we talked about this last week, and we're just kind of moving some monies around in the different accounts. Laura, do you want to say anything again about it, or...?

FINANCE DIRECTOR BROWN: This is just appropriating the money that we'll be getting from the state for the park's grant. Just getting it on our books.

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: Okay, if there's no other discussion, I move to adopt.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Second.

Unanimous voice vote of 7 yes to adopt the first reading of Ordinance No. 49 - 2018.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you. Motion and a second to suspend the rules of Council for three readings for Ordinance No. 49 – 2018.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: So moved.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Second.

ORDINANCE NO. 49 – 2018 WAS PASSED BY A UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE OF 7 YES.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: All right, thank you. May I have a motion and second to read by title only, the first reading of Resolution No. 10 - 2018.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: So moved.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: Second.

Unanimous voice vote of 7 yes to read by title only the first reading of Resolution No. 10 - 2018.

13. Resolution No. 10 - 2018 Finance and Property Committee

A resolution directing the Board of Elections to place upon the ballot at the General Election to be held on November 6, 2018, the question of increasing the City of North Canton's rate of municipal income tax from 1.5% to 2.0% for a period of 10 years, January 1, 2019 until December 31, 2028, for the purpose of providing additional safety funding for construction of a new safety building to house Police, Dispatch, and Fire/EMS operations, supporting Fire/EMS staffing, providing additional training opportunities for safety forces, and to create a resource for future maintenance of the safety building.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, Chairwoman Werren?

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: Okay, so to make it similar to the reading that we just did, we just need to amend again, the same whereas and the section. Do you want us to go over each of these again? Okay, Daryl, do you want to highlight them?

COUNCILMAN REVOLDT: Yes, please and thank you. In the initial paragraph "supporting Fire/EMS staffing." In the third whereas delete that entirely. And the fifth whereas "as well as funding as increase in Fire/EMS staffing." And then finally in section 1, "supporting Fire/EMS staffing." All deleted. We need a motion to amend.

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: Okay, I motion to amend.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: I'll second the motion to amend.

Unanimous voice vote of 7 to amend Resolution No. 10 – 2018 to delete said language.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Are you ready to motion to approve?

COUNCILMAN REVOLDT: As amended.

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: Yeah, motion to approve as amended.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Second.

Unanimous voice vote of 6 yes, 1 nay to adopt the first reading of Resolution No. 10 - 2018. Fonte voted nay.

RESOLUTION NO. 10 - 2018 WAS GIVEN FIRST READING.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: All right, thank you. Reports, Member Fonte?

14. Reports – Council

COUNCILMAN FONTE: I just wanted to say safety service building, blending everybody together is a great idea. I just still want to see if it's possible to reduce it to seven years. I wasn't crystal clear on the answers yet. So, once I get the answers and I feel good about it, I'll be a "aye." But right now it's a "nay." Okay. And then other than that, I just wanted to the Stark Parks, I had a chance to ride the park trails a little bit. This weekend, if you haven't had a chance, it's a fantastic amenity. They're making great progress over there on Market with the underground bridge. And I know they're going to have a meeting here coming up on the master plan for the Stark Parks. So, keep a look out for that if you're interested in going to the meeting. That's all I have. Thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Member Werren?

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: Okay, so many of you have seen the sign and they've done a really good job of advertising that the bridge on Easthill will begin, I believe its tomorrow. So Laura, you're going to have to find a new way to work. But I think that's a nice bridge to be done, and a lot of it was all grant money. And then we can talk about the different metal that we will attach to that. The tennis courts are coming along in Eastwood. And hopefully we're going to have some Pickle Ball lines in there, as well. So those are being completely redone. And then Pat and I drove around the entire neighborhood, or the entire ward last Friday. And we're looking at streets that we thought were appropriate for CRAs. And also just look at some different parks that may or may not need improvements. And what we can maybe transform. Did you get on your search Pat to see how we can transform tennis courts into something else? So it was very nice to do that. And I thank the Director for doing that. I hadn't done that before. And Laura, I appreciate all the things you're doing with this levy and getting back to people. And you're timely about it. And you answer the questions in the right manner. And, you know, Council people too, if we have questions during the week don't be afraid to reach out to Laura. So that when we come here we can already have those answers ready to go and we're set to move forward. Or not. But at least you'll have your answers. Thanks.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Member Kiesling?

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: No report.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Member Revoldt?

COUNCILMAN REVOLDT: Thank you. I'll honor Mr. Tripp's request to discuss the reasons for my yes vote this evening. I think with the exception of Member Foltz the planning for this safety building began in the year 2000 when I was mayor. It was evident then as it is now that we were rapidly outgrowing our space in the facility. Moreover, and the Chief can speak more eloquently than I can, that the large trend in our safe Fire and EMS safety forces was their combination. Back in 2000, we had two separate entities with two distinct chiefs. If my recollection is correct. We don't have that anymore. And we have, now we have Fire and EMS respond, same people respond to the same calls basically. In the interim period, we've had two recessions. And the loss

of Hoover. And I think that those episodes probably helped derail the planning for that. I know the mayor and I had some fairly robust conversations about raising the income tax back in 2008. And we went through the exercise of becoming efficient, which included an Auditor of State's performance audit to try to bring our costs down. I think many people around this table share the same view that I do. That this is taxpayer money. I think we've got one vote that is a no. And we've got probably some other folks who in their hearts of hearts are pretty uncomfortable about asking for an income tax increase. The need doesn't go away. What's different now? And I can say this, having taken the long view. We probably have a team in place today that we never had in place in 2000 or in the years after, who can execute this project. I don't want to embarrass anybody, but I'm pretty confident in our administrative team that we can execute this project on budget on time. And that, that is not an insignificant consideration in my mind, Larry. Can we do this? And do it right? So, I think as we look at this I think we're posed and ultimately the voters are going to make the call. There is no perfect solution. We'll let them make the decision. And part of that decision is an understanding that now when the bell rings, that we may have to dispatch people from station 1 to station 2 get the bus or vice versa. That we lose time on response. Correct, Chief? So, you know, and again our goal is to make sure that particularly on EMS runs that we make good use of the golden hour. When people really need help. So, that's the underlying scheme of this. Second issue that came up, was a question of vision. And I would say that there is a lot more activity that's going on behind the scenes to get this City and the school system in a better place. There's more conversation. We've had more collegial discussions with school leadership. We have revisited the master plan. Mark prepared an excellent summary of what's been done. We've convened some meetings with some outside experts on what they have done to rebuild their downtown. We're moving in that direction. We have an Administrator who's thinking in a new and different way. That I think will please some people, if we can pull a project or two off. But those conversations are occurring, and to Dominic's point, indeed some of that financing may include some philanthropy. So, the pieces and parts there. We don't have it yet. But I think the vision is there. So, at any rate that's my report. Mr. Tripp, I hope that helps explain my yes vote this evening. I think one of the other things is this, is that to Stephanie's point, we're going to play this out to August, we're going to have a Council meeting on July 9th, and we're going to have a Council meeting on July 23rd. So, we're going to have plenty of time, we're using social media to respond to questions. I think we're going try to have our hands on this. The chiefs have promised more detailed information about kind of what's some of their requirements are. And what the current situation is. I think those things will be get filled out. Again, what we're trying to is make sure we don't miss an election deadline, which is August 8th. If we want to get it on. You know, and I think one of the other things is this, is that had a conversation with Jeff Wendorf. Great guy. You know, he said that the City and the school, this is like the Serengeti, we're both circling the same shrinking watering hole. That's his phrase. I wish I had created it. We're trying to find ways to do things with shrinking resources. And there's no real good way. I think one of the things that we really want to do, is we don't want to jeopardize what the school is doing. And we want to be cooperative. We want to be supportive. And they're going to do the same thing we are. They're going to come with a plan, and they're going to carry it to the voters. And I think at the end at the day, when you look at our charter, the political authority in this community rests with the voters. Our job is to get them to a decision. If the decision is up, great. If it's down, they've spoken, and we move on. So, that's my monologue.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: That's an excellent report, Daryl. Thank you. Member Cerreta.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: No report.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Member Foltz?

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: Thank you. Member Revoldt, great talking points. So, it's hard to just add to them. But, I think the thing that I'm looking at is, we put \$10 to \$12 million probably 15 years ago into our water system. We had a lot of money at one time, we made decisions to put it back into the neighborhoods with infrastructure. Put storm sewers in. Put sanitary in. Put curbs in. I think that's done a wonderful thing for our infrastructure and our neighborhoods. We've put a lot of money in the pool. We see some great grant opportunities for our parks. And now, it's Police and Fire time. It probably was their time before, but it just wasn't right. The dynamics have changed from across the street. Where we had a volunteer Fire Department, it something happened they let them out of the jobs and they came out and they staffed our Fire Department. That's no longer the case. We have one, I think we talked about it a month ago, one of the best cities to retire in, in Ohio. And that means we need very efficient EMS. We've just got to look at it straight ahead. And how do we do that? We have it under roof, one building. And being as efficient as we can with those units going out to serve our public. We owe it to be good stewards to the public. And I think we're doing that, when we're looking at the next 40 years of our Police and Fire Department. What are we going to do, are we stay there and make it work? Or are we going to be responsible and advocate for a nice future for North Canton with our constituents, our taxpayers? That's what we're doing here. So, I challenge the Administration, this Council, whoever is here, to get it done before 10 years. I think there would be no more responsible thing to do, than to say we asked for 10 we're done in 8 or 9. We're going to take it off the books. Hopefully, that can be the case. And I think we have what it takes to do that here with the right people in the right positions. So, you know, this is a great place to retire. Our income tax is still going to be one of the lowest in the state. And I think the timing is right to get it done. And it's not in spite of the schools, I think there's room for the schools with property tax to continue their mission statement, to get better buildings and look to their future too. There's a lot of good hard working people that are teachers in this community. And our school system is beyond reproach. And I think when you look at North Canton, it's the schools, it's the safety forces, its government, it's our street, our snow removal, it's our parks. It's everything. And this is the next thing that needs addressed. So, that's why I'm in favor of it.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: All right, thank you. All good comments. Director of Law?

LAW DIRECTOR FOX: No report.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Director of Finance.

FINANCE DIRECTOR BROWN: No report.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Director of Administration?

DIRECTOR DEORIO: No report.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Mr. Mayor?

MAYOR HELD: Yes, first off I appreciate all the comments that were made tonight by Scott Kelley, and Larry Tripp, and Melanie Roll and Chuck Osborne. You know, when you look at the City, and the vision that we've had for the City. At least, you know, even going back to when I first started serving as the City Administration. And Patrick DeOrio, when I first became Mayor, started serving as the City councilperson. And for those of you that have been around for a long time, knew that most of the discussions that we had were, it was very hard for us to find agreement. In most everything. He certainly served to refine me a lot. And it also goes the same thing for our councilmembers that have been around here for a long time. So we don't take, we don't take the issue lightly at all. There's not an easy solution to this. And when we look at the needs of the Police Department, and you look at the tremendous pressure that our police officers are under 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. That's just not North Canton. But it's all across the country. Trying to get applicants for new positions. We used to be like 80 to 100, now 14, 15. It's not an easy job. And when we hire these young men and young women, same thing goes with the Fire Department. Because the calls continue to go up. We absolutely have to make sure they have the right resources and equipment. And the setup that we have now as Councilman Revoldt mentioned, we tried to be as cost efficient and as effective as we can. But at some point, you have to make that decision. Are we going to invest in the resources to keep the community safe? And after looking at this, this is now as Mayor this has been my 13th year. And Scott as you had mentioned, it really was one of the best decisions I made, not to raise the income tax. But you come to a point where there is a no perfect solution. And I think given the circumstances, given the needs that we have, I support this decision. I think it's the best option that we have. Because our number one, when you look at the vision for the City, our primary responsibility is to make sure that people who live here and work here are safe. And I think that, well I know that North Canton is tops in that area. Throughout the state. And we want to make sure and keep it that way. Also one other point of good news, is we had our Hoover High School team that went to Washington D.C. And they came in on the airport this past week. It really was impressive. It was very exciting. And it was, they developed a product. And it was part of Junior Achievement. What they did is they took, they had to solve a social problem, and at the same time develop a product that they could sell. So they took paper, they recycled the paper, and made it into like these, what they called seed bombs. And then they put wildflower into these seed bombs. And they were selling them. And that was their project. And then they had to go and do a presentation in Washington D.C. So, there was a total of 15 finalists from across the whole country. And they won. And the social aspect was that you see the declining bees in, you know, throughout the country. So this was really to encourage the grown of wildflowers and be able to do it in a cost effective manner, so they could sell them and give them to residents. And also to help increase the bee population. So they took first place. And I think this is like the sixth or seventh year that they've been through this. So, it really was very, it was really, really impressive. So, special congratulations to all of them. And we'll have the teachers and the students up here sometime to recognize them. That's all I have.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Yeah, it was awesome. The company's name Believe. It was pretty exciting. And kudos to the Akron Canton Airport for really welcome, they had the fire trucks out there. And they gave the water cannon salute as the plane was coming down. It was crazy.

MAYOR HELD: Yeah, and they're going to be in the, Chief Bacon has arranged so that they will ride on one of our fire trucks in the Fourth of July parade. So they'll get their banners on the sides. So it's just always nice to recognize our students when they achieve something like that. I don't that we've had too many national championships. Have we? First time for Junior Achievements. So, it's really, really exciting. So that's all I have.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: I think this is probably our first national championship, yeah. Mike Grady and Joe Rosso are the teachers. Good stuff, good stuff. Madam Clerk?

COUNCIL CLERK BAILEY: No report.

16. Final Call for New Business:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Okay, finish up. Just kind of echo what Daryl mentioned in his report. We have a regular Council Meeting, July 9th and July 23rd. So, and that's it for our July schedule.

17. July Meeting Schedule:

- **Monday, July 2, 2018 - no meeting
- **Monday, July 9, 2018 - Council meeting
- Monday, July 16, 2018 - no meeting
- Monday, July 23, 2018 - Council meeting
- **Monday, June 30, 2018 - no meeting

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: And before I entertain a motion to adjourn, I want to ask, we need a quick 20 minutes for Exec. Session. So if I could have a motion and a second to meet in the Executive Session with the Law Director concerning disputes involving the City. They are subject of pending or eminent court action.

COUNCILMAN REVOLDT: So moved.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: Second.

Roll call vote of 7 yes to move into Executive Session.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Okay, we are in Executive Session. For those, when we come out of Executive Session, we'll be adjourning the meeting, no other action will be taken.

At this time, City Council adjourned into Executive Session.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: We back on. Let the record reflect, no action was taken. May I have a motion and a second to adjourn Executive Session?

COUNCILMAN REVOLDT: So moved.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Second.

Roll call vote of 7 yes to move out of Executive Session.

18. Adjourn:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: All right, motion and a second to adjourn this meeting?

COUNCILMAN REVOLDT: So moved.

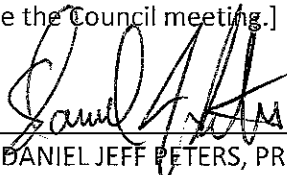
COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Second.

Unanimous voice vote of 7 to adjourn.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Okay, we are adjourned.

[Let the record reflect Charles Osborne set up a tripod and appeared to videotape the Council meeting.]


MARY BETH BAILEY, CLERK OF COUNCIL


DANIEL JEFF PETERS, PRESIDENT