

**As authorized by President of Council Jon Snyder, following is a verbatim transcription of the January 22, 2013 Finance and Property Committee meeting:**

Mr. Snyder: At this time I call to order the Council of the Whole meeting for Tuesday, the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of January 2013. Would the Clerk please call the roll?

The following members of council responded to roll call for the Finance and Property Committee meeting: Cerreta, Foltz, Griffith, Kiesling, Peters, Snyder, and Werren.

**FINANCE & PROPERTY COMMITTEE:**

1a. **Mayor's Court Receipts – December, 2012:**

Mr. Snyder: Thank you. The first thing on the agenda is the Mayor's Court Receipts for December 2012. The Committee was given the statement. If there are no additions or corrections, and the members of Council concur, I'd like to move it to the agenda for next Monday for approval.

Mrs. Kiesling: That's fine.

1b. **Financial Statement – December, 2012:**

Mr. Snyder: Secondly, Item B, the Financial Statements for December of 2012. You were all given a copy of the financial statements for the City for December. If the Committee is in concurrence and members of Council, we will move that to the agenda for approval next Monday evening. Alright, we'll do that accordingly.

1c. **Discussion – Second Addendum to the Little League Lease:**

Mr. Snyder: The next item is Item C, is a discussion of the Second Addendum to the Little League Lease. The First Addendum allowed the movement of the fence and, I think, additional field that was put in, But now we're talking about lighting and – originally it was proposed, it came when I put it on the agenda that we would be lighting field number 8 and working on the fence in the back. However, last week we did have public input. Members of the Little League were here. Their request was that they would like to light the front three fields and also light the back field, Number 8. I think ...

Mr. Peters: Jon, it was front two and the back one, right? A total of three?

Mrs. Kiesling: No, no, they sent a letter.

Mr. Snyder: They sent a letter and ...

Mr. Fox: It's actually, say if you're on Maple and just kind of facing it, it would be the closest field, the first one on your right, the second one, and then the one to the right of the concession stand.

Mrs. Kiesling: Inaudible... when you're walking in.

Mr. Fox: So those are the three.

Mrs. Kiesling: And then eight in the back.

Mr. Fox: And then also eight if they could get to that. So that's what they're proposing.

Mr. Cerreta: The competitive fields are fields three and two which are on towards the street as soon as you come in. There's another one then field one, which is for girls softball – can be used, doesn't have an infield, can be used. And then the far back one is for the older kids with that. So those are the ones they want to, for competitive, you know for the kids as far as at nighttime and for bringing in some tournaments and bring some people into our town. Those are the fields that they would like have down. And so it was a mistake put on - it was probably my error because I had this discussion and I was misunderstood with that type of thing. So I'll take the blame for that. But I think they've been real specific in their letters exactly what they're looking for in this issue here. And if I may just quick...

Mr. Snyder: Sure.

Mr. Cerreta: Some of the things that we heard about last week were some of the issues with the people in the area. Number one: one was parking and I think we can take care of that. I mean that is an issue. And we can take care of that with the field that's right next to it. We've been talking about that over the last, well several months and all we need to do is kind of straighten that thing out. And that's an issue anyway because there are people who want to use our - the walking track back there. And when there are games going on where it's a very popular time, they don't even have room for those folks. So I think we need to do that anyways all around. So I think that would take care of that on-street parking issue that they may have. The lights, from what I am told the lights shine down. They should not be as a nuisance as you might think the old lights used to be. And then the noise level, that's something that we have to discuss. How late? How far do you want them? I mean there are kids playing. There's going to be going noise there anyways. You know is it an extra hour at night or so is what we need to talk about. Is that and how many nights a week is something that we probably need to maybe get together with some folks and go over you know ...

Mr. Snyder: Well, I think those are all good points. And what I would like to see happen, and maybe you and Mr. Foltz and another member - Mr. Foltz is very ...inaudible... into the parks. But there's two things that play, as you say. I think immediately should be address the parking issue, that this opening spring season that that parking problem is totally alleviated for those neighbors. God forbid they would need an ambulance or something and not be able to get that. So that's priority number one is to address that parking. Number two: I think that mound needs to be built higher. That the people are unable - whether we put a fence on it or something, that they can't come off Maple and go into there. That would eliminate any parking on that. If we address those two problems immediately, then possibly that we will hold a meeting here. In talking to two of the principles of the Little League after the meeting last evening, along with a letter, funds still have to be raised for the lighting. It's a very expensive and I understand in excess of one hundred and some thousand dollars. If we get together with the neighbors that live in that area here, along with the representatives of the Little League and have an informal public hearing with them, airing and venting both sides, and at that point we can address the time element and maybe there's some consensus we can obtain. But if we show good faith and take care of the parking, and take care of the mound and put the trees back that we have allowed to die. I know Cooksey got those trees for us and they probably - somebody, I think Mr. Sahadi said they all died. But if we get those trees back up here or maybe a wooden fence or some way that the children can't just pull in there and run over the mound. It will sure go a long way for the neighbors that we're trying to correct their problems over there.

Mr. Cerreta: Maybe when we skim out that side we take some of that dirt and put it over there on the mounds.  
Mr. Snyder: Yeah, that's good.

Mr. Peters: A couple of things. In regards to the parking, when we start putting the folks on that extra lot, the Luzio lot that we've purchased, that is going to alleviate some of the parking, but there is an enforcement component, I think, that should be involved there also. And maybe in the way of an email to the Police Chief stating, you know starting on opening day, if they park on that street, or if they park over - if they pull up over the curb that they're going to get ticketed, period. There will be no warning, they're going to be ticketed.

Mr. Cerreta: Or towed.  
Mr. Peters: Or towed.

Mrs. Kiesling: Well we put signs up for the football games and softball games, right?  
Mr. Peters: Well...  
Mr. Griffith: Right.  
Mr. Peters: Yeah.

Mrs. Werren: Did it work?

Mrs. Kiesling: Oh, yeah and then we closed the gate. The other thing is to lock that gate.

Mr. Peters: Yeah, with softball we closed gate. And I think that was another thing too, I think we need to address that gate to make sure there is no way they can get through it. But there's that one access on the side...

Mr. Cerreta: Right, that needs to be closed.

Mr. Peters: Well, I think they use that – I'm not sure what they use it for.

Mrs. Kiesling: Which lot – what you talking - on East Maple?

Mr. Peters: Off of Maple – on the

Mr. Cerreta: Yeah, the one of the left if you're looking at it, by the creek

Mr. Griffith: Hoover creek.

Mr. Peters: East – east side.

Mrs. Kiesling: Oh you can – a human can't – you have to like squeeze to get around that fence.

Mr. Cerreta: Well they've been parking there.

Mrs. Kiesling: That's – I mean my boys – my son has done it. We dropped him off there. But they stopped us from parking there, though.

Mr. Peters: Long and short of it though. I think there needs to be an enforcement component and make sure that the Chief is on board with that. And in regards to the sound, I think that's either just an adjustment of the volume. Maybe have a conversation with these announcers because I've heard them. It's not the actual players. It's not the kids yelling and screaming ...

Mrs. Kiesling: No, it's not the kids.

Mr. Peters: on the field and hooping it up, it's that announcer, you know, announcing someone's name really - you know and he's excited, I get it, but maybe address the volume, address where those speakers are pointing. Maybe that's the key.

Mr. Cerreta: That's the key, I think, the speakers are going out right now. They can be taken back to the and brought in and that would alleviate a lot of that.

Mr. Peters: We did that at the North Canton Pool.

Mr. Cerreta: Right.

Mr. Peters: We had some issues back there, and we addressed that by...

Mrs. Werren: Did it work?

Mr. Peters: Yeah.

Mr. Snyder: That's what I say, I think possibly Members Foltz and Peters and Member Cerreta, we can have a little meeting with those neighbors and the Little League and get them here on a more informal and get it done.  
Mr. Foltz.

Mr. Foltz: Just to follow up, I did talk to a contractor and I don't know if the Administration had a chance, I had him look at the Luzio lot just to give us an estimate. And we want to go gravel down there because it's permeable and we could probably do something with about an acre with gravel before we even need any soil and conservation requirements where we would have to put a detention basin on that property. So I'm reviewing that now. Hopefully I'll get something. So that has to be addressed before opening day. So we give the Little League parents somewhere to park, not on neighborhood streets, not off East Maple, somewhere secured that's set up for them. So hopefully we'll, I'll get some more information for Council and Administration on that.

Mr. Snyder: Good.

Mrs. Werren: And Jon, I'd like to be a part of that committee because I know where the residents...

Mr. Snyder: Absolutely, that's in your Ward, I apologize.

Mrs. Werren: No, that's okay a number of the residents have called me and...

Mr. Snyder: Absolutely. And anybody else – Mr. Griffith.

Mrs. Kiesling: But you know it's actually Ward 2. It's not in Ward 3.

Mrs. Werren: Well a number of the residents...

Mr. Griffith: But the residents are Ward 3.

Mr. Foltz: The residents are in Ward 3.

Mrs. Werren: The residents...

Mrs. Kiesling: The parking is Ward 2...

Mrs. Werren: The parking is in Ward 2, the residents are in my area.

Mr. Snyder: Absolutely, you can. And we'll make sure that you're part of that because we want to make sure we - that's important for those residents and they've been very patient. I do have some exciting news that will segway right into this, and I wanted to share this with you. I just received it today, about 4:00, it's probably one of the most exciting things that happened in the City in a long time. And there was a gentleman by the name of Earl L. Stockert who passed away last March of 2012. Mr. Stockert bequeathed to the City of North Canton \$150,000 to be used solely for the parks and recreation. So that money will be turned over to the Park Fund, and I'm sure that Mr. Foltz will put it to good use, and possibly and ...

(Laughter)

Mr. Foltz: It's right in our ...inaudible... house, Jon.

Mr. Cerreta: There it is.

Mr. Snyder: That's it. We'll go right over there too it. And I know that. And that money - I know we had a problem, we didn't have any ready capital because we're constrained budgetary for '13, but this will go into the Park funds and that will give you a little seed money to address that parking situation as well as other immediate things in the park. But that's phenomenal.

Mr. Cerreta: Very nice man. Mainly was a supporter and very, very involved in sports at North Canton. So that's an excellent way to leave it...

Mr. Snyder: He split his estate five ways: the City and North Canton Schools and choir ...

Mr. Cerreta: He worked at the Hoover Company for 25 years and went to nothing but games. So ...

Mr. Foltz: Markie knew him personally?

Mr. Cerreta: Yeah.

Mr. Foltz: Oh, that's awesome.

Mr. Cerreta: Yeah, great guy - great guy.

Mr. Griffith: We should - along those lines, there was a misconception on **North Canton Patch** that we would be paying for the lights and improvements and...

Mr. Cerreta: Good point, Dan, good point.

Mr. Griffith: And we should be very clear that the City is not paying for any of that. The taxpayers are not going to hook. And I also think - I think we're all in agreement about the fact that the parking issue should be resolved whether we decide to move forward, how we decide to move forward, I mean that's almost separate from the lease negotiations.

Mr. Cerreta: Right, right.

Mr. Griffith: That just needs to be corrected and there's an easy answer, so...

Mr. Cerreta: Speaking of the Lease, do we need to add a field first of all? I mean, let's get this thing straight. Do we need to make an addendum to add a field and then...

Mrs. Kiesling: It's already there.

Mr. Cerreta: It's already there? You guys are good.

Mr. Foltz: Well there's...

Mrs. Kiesling: You mean add a field? No, no, no, it's not in there. You need to ...

Mr. Cerreta: You need to add a field so there's a field eight on there.

Mrs. Kiesling: It's actually there, but not in the Lease.

Mr. Cerreta: There is a field eight.

Mrs. Werren: It's a practice field.

Mr. Cerreta: It was a practice field like you just said.

Mr. Fox: Well a practice area and indeed to bring it up if we're going to make it all, you know, in compliance with the situation we'll need to amend to show that we've added the field. The lighting, but I believe as well, from the language that's in the first – the initial contract, it can be read as though those fields are to be used only for North Canton Little League. And we that they've - they do, in fact, have tournaments and they're contemplating having other tournaments and so forth. So I believe to clear up that ambiguity in there that we should be clear how they'll use it for tournaments and so forth, because they do, I believe, have fund raisers and so forth.

Mr. Cerreta: They do, but Little League kids are involved in it.

Mrs. Kiesling: Oh, definitely.

Mr. Fox: So, correct, correct. So,

Mr. Cerreta: There's never anybody that comes in and uses it to rent it that I know of, right? So...

Mr. Snyder: And that's why I think that if you get together, because those neighbors have, you know they've cooperated the last time.

Mr. Cerreta: Yeah, they're good folks and we understand it.

Mr. Snyder: And they are very good people and we don't want to be disingenuous to them. We want to let - make sure that they're part of the answers rather than not creating a problem for them. Steph ...

Mrs. Werren: One of the things too, I was talking with Mrs. Pucci, and she suggested that you know a lot of people don't read the paper, they don't get our notices, and sometimes it's not clear exactly, you know, what's on our agenda. Would there be a way to access those neighbors through a letter or something?

Mr. Snyder: You are permitted, as a Council member ...

Mrs. Werren: Oh, I can do that. Okay.

Mr. Snyder: You could – Gail will give you the names of the streets that you would like to send the letter to...

Mrs. Werren: Okay.

Mr. Snyder: And you're more than welcome to send a letter out there to tell those...

Mrs. Werren: Letting them know if they want to come.

Mr. Snyder: let them know, right. Then they want to come and we'll hold a little meeting. We'll use City Hall here and do it before council meeting or another evening that's convenient.

Mrs. Werren: Okay.

Mr. Snyder: And then bring the people from the Little League and so that, you know, that everything's ...inaudible... So that we know what those lights are like and what they're going to do when we have some action. So, we're not just shooting in the dark so to speak.

Mrs. Werren: I think she's maybe interested in them coming to public speaks.

Mr. Snyder: That's alright. And the more participation we get from them, the better we are. So we're just going to let that go as part of the discussion. And we'll move towards ...inaudible... in the next month or so. We'll get up here with the public, and get it moving along, and get that taken care of – taking care of that parking and that other situation so we're reading to go early May.

Mrs. Kiesling: So Tim's going to draft the new lease and come back to us in a couple of weeks and look at it again and talk about it again and...

Mr. Snyder: Right, look at it again. So – and in the next couple of weeks we'll get together with the public and get that going. Alright, next thing, prior to – I'm going to skip over the D, and come back to it, and do E, just for the matter of expediency. Again, under the Ohio Law, we were notified last Monday a week yesterday that we had a resident pass away here in the City. And unfortunately when he did pass away, about now over three weeks ago, he shows no apparent heirs or descendants that could take care of properly burying the body. Whether he's indigent or not, I don't know, but as of right now the law is not real clear other than saying if he has no immediate relatives or somebody responsible to take care of the disposition of the body, that it falls upon either the township or the municipality. In this case he lived in North Canton. He lived the trailer park there along Applegrove. The Coroner made very good attempt and ran ads in the paper and made an attempt. Mr. Fox and his staff made an attempt to identify anybody. It seems to be that he's not a veteran and he doesn't have any immediate or apparent heirs. So the cost of the disposition of body falls upon us. I know people thought that they came out when they seen the proposed legislation, it said \$5,000. The reason for that number was it was all encompassing. And the preliminary estimate is somewhere between \$800 and \$1,200 to properly dispose of the body. The law says that you will bury the - either the remains or the cremains and put a marker upon it. And I think there is local, for a better word, Potters Field, down south of Canton. So we need to pass legislation. We're going to have a meeting right after this because unfortunately the body is at the morgue and the longer it waits – I don't want to say that, I was going to say it's not like wine - we just have to dispose of the body properly. I apologize. And you know, we just have to get it done. And so we want to at this time get it done on emergency and get it taken care of. Any questions of the Committee?

1e. **Burial/Cremation Contract**

Mrs. Kiesling: Tim has some information that Miriam would like to hear.

Mr. Fox: Right. Yes, I – right and initially when I first had received the call from the Coroner's Office and performed the research, it was clear that the City would be, you know, responsible for, you know, the costs involvement in the burial. I called some funeral parlors, just ones in North Canton, to try to get some estimates. And initially it was not clear whether or not cremation was appropriate or there was an embalming and that process is much more expensive. Of course, it involves a casket and a much larger gravesite and so forth and I received estimates up to eight, ten thousand dollars, if that was necessary. Mrs. Baughman had notified me of some other alternatives that could be much less expensive that she was aware of. And along with that and calls to the Canton Law Department, put me in touch today with the Health Department for the County as well as Canton. They had given me some alternatives as well. I did contact the Veteran's Administration and the National Cemetery Eligibility Office just in case he was a veteran. And indeed he's not. So we won't receive any funds from the VA (Veterans Association). The same thing, I contacted the Social Security Administration and although there is a death benefit, it's not permitted to be used for funerals. So indeed that cost will be borne by the City. However, after speaking to both Health Departments, we have found a funeral parlor that agreed to do everything related to the cremation and because many times there are hidden costs as far as transporting, the urn, the gravesite, and so forth. But they've agreed to do it for no more than \$425. And I also was in touch with a local attorney that I believe may work with probating the estate. There's a small amount of money, but we do believe enough to help perhaps cover some other bills that he had. But since this is covering the funeral, as Dan knows as a probate attorney, involved with – we'll have a higher priority. So it appears that even though \$400 or \$425 will be something that will be returned and so that the cost to the City ultimately should be zero.

Mr. Cerreta: Good job, Tim, really good.

Mrs. Kiesling: Great.

Mr. Cerreta: Miriam, thanks for your help on that.

Mrs. Kiesling: Yeah, thank you.

Mr. Cerreta: Miriam, works with indigent folks and she had a lot of information on that too. Very nice.

Mr. Fox: Absolutely. Very, very helpful. I appreciate Miriam stopping in and helping us.

Mr. Griffith: There are few people in the county who knows – know as much about this issue as Miriam does. I appreciate her efforts. Do we need to prospectively draft an ordinance that sets our limit like other municipalities have done as well. You've gotten us a great deal in this case, but you know for the future, do we need to set this just as a bar so that it's easier to do. I mean hopefully we're not going to have to do this ever again, but ...

Mrs. Kiesling: Miriam had made the comment that like the City of Canton and the City of Alliance, are pre-negotiated set costs because of course there's a little more indigent than in the City, you know downtown cities. They negotiate costs that, you know, they kept for every person that this potentially could happen. So they could potentially ...

Mr. Griffith: By ordinance.

Mrs. Kiesling: negotiate with somebody then set it as an ordinance.

Mr. Fox: Absolutely, you could, but my understanding is in the kind of recorded history that we have here at North Canton...

Mrs. Kiesling: Well, yeah.

Mr. Fox: this hasn't happened in the past, and hopefully we don't anticipate it happening in the future. And for the cost involved with knowing that we can use some of the local services for no more than \$425, initially we were looking at a limit of \$5,000, so we wouldn't have to come back to Council if it was \$5,010 and have a special meeting. But I believe we - and what we've put in the ordinance is the ceiling of \$1,000 just for unforeseen incidentals. But right now we believe it will come in above \$425.

Mr. Cerreta: Is it \$5,010?

Mrs. Kiesling: \$1,000

Mr. Foltz: We're going to amend the ordinance.

Mrs. Kiesling: We're going to amend the ordinance.

Mr. Foltz: To reflect the \$1,000.

Mr. Fox: Correct, yeah.

Mr. Griffith: There's two issues: And one is the ordinance that you're discussing is to empower this particular transaction.

Mr. Fox: Right, right.

Mr. Griffith: And the second would be a prospective transaction, which is, and I mean, again, I hope we don't have to do it again, but my grandfather got hit by lightning twice and he didn't expect it the second time.

Mr. Fox: Sure.

Mr. Griffith: But, you know, I think we need to, it's not going to hurt to have the ordinance on the books at least.

Mr. Snyder: No, and council, we can move it to – we can put that on the books – put it on the Committee of the Whole next two weeks.

Mr. Griffith: I mean does that pose a problem?

Mr. Fox: I'd want to pass .

Mr. Cerreta: Pass this tonight.

Mr. Fox: pass this tonight so I can actually contact the Coroner's Office and the funeral parlor, and they'll start it tomorrow.

Mr. Griffith: And even if we at \$425, usually like you said at 4 we're going to get reimbursed because of the... priority in the probate, so...

Mr. Snyder: Okay. Alright, we'll come back to that under the special meeting.  
Mr. Fox: Yes, sir.

1d. **2013 Appropriation Budget**

Mr. Snyder: Thank you. Alright, moving back to Item D, the 2013 Appropriation Budget, you were all given a copy of the Mayor's budget for 2013. I would like to go through this a couple of times and have at least two readings. We went - by state law we have to have it in place by the end of March, but we will go over it at least one more time in a Council of the Whole we'll go through it next Monday as a first reading and hopefully pass it, then go through another Council of the Whole the following week and then have another reading, and then pass it on the second or third reading. Historically we've gone - we've done this in several different ways. And, the most expedient way is to briefly go through the highlights of it. I'll have you ...inaudible... and if you have any questions on it, contact the members of either the Finance Committee, Mr. Griffith, Mrs. Kiesling, or myself; Karen Alger; the Mayor; Mike Grimes, our Director of Administration. Some of the significant items that are in here, again as I told you on the telephone, the EMS levy went in as a replacement levy, which generated about an additional \$76,000 more than what we anticipated. We're working on other fees as you know. Going along, the Police Department is the first normal first item on here. Security of persons and property - we're projecting roughly about an eight percent increase in that overall figure. There's nothing significant, it's limited in the amount of equipment. However, in here is - in the capital requests are three additional cars. With equipment, it's about \$120,000. I thought we had talked about, and I don't know maybe Mike can open some light on it, why we didn't end up leasing those equipment. Is there a particular reason?

Mr. Grimes: On cruisers, we didn't find that much savings on that. The Chief did go out and get some leasing figures for us, and that.

Mr. Snyder: I knew we talked about and it ...inaudible...  
Mr. Grimes: Yes sir.

Mr. Snyder: But outside of that and some vests which we're required by bargaining contract to purchase, that's pretty much the same. Moving to the other side - Leisure time activities, the swimming pool. We had a good year at the swimming pool this year. We anticipate some major capital projects at the swimming pool this year. We're going to be talking about that. There's some, I think they have a liner problem and some other things. And I'm sure Mr. Foltz will be bringing from the Committee...

Mr. Foltz: We'll discuss maybe a possible bond.

Mr. Snyder: A bond or some way to pay for that because those are about half a million dollar commitment.

Mr. Foltz: Yes, it is.

Mr. Snyder: So, we're going to get into that here and talk about that. But again, it had a great year. It paid for itself. Economically it did quite well. Parks - as you said, they're pretty, they're an integral part of our economic development. They're an integral part of the health and welfare of the City. We're very proud of the parks and they continue. And now we have an infusion of some more capital in that which is going to be nice - which takes care of that. The Civic Center shows a large increase in cost of operation, only for the fact that we changed some things around. You've noticed we've eliminated the salaries out of there and health insurance and so forth. We've really turned the corner there where we're not losing money on the rental. We're going to take part of it and by hopefully - and I don't know if some of you got down there today. Mr. Benekos had a little show down there, and he wanted everybody to come down, but unfortunately I could not. I'm going to get down; but that's going to be a real diamond in the rough for us. That's going to be from the standpoint of being able to provide services to the community, making a setting for our employees that they can work efficiently, utilizing our employees. By doing that we're going to eliminate the need to hire another body for administrative help. So they've got that figured out where they are utilizing the girls and getting more production out of what we have. , so that's - we commend Mr. Benekos on that operation over there. Moving, also, along the Recreation Department, most of these show that there is a change in minimum wage beginning January 1. Our seasonal help is minimum wage at the swimming pool. So, our salaries are retching up somewhat there. Coming back, Planning Commission is kind of a benign thing. We have to have it. It's not a very costly thing to us. Economic and Development - we've combined the Director of Economic Development and the Director of Permits and Inspections under one umbrella, which has made a significant savings to us there. We basically eliminated the salary lines in the wage of health and benefit lines there. Some



Professional Services in there, I see \$12,500 for Brownfields. We do have that problem north of town, and they're constantly – Director Bowles is working diligently when he has time, to try to put something together from an investment standpoint, economically, to use that land north of town. The Director of Administration, again, we've changed some salaries there where we've - some of the salaries there into the Director and Director of Administrative Services have been charged to the appropriate line item of either water and sewer and we were able to bring down some of those costs and not affect the high increase in operations. Department of Finance, that's where our money sources come from. We put a new computer in there. It's up and running in a couple of our departments. The real shining star, Karen has worked very diligently over the last fourteen months and has put into place online bill payment and credit card capture, both over telephone, internet and at the actual counter. Eventually that will hold our cost down and free our girls up for other things. Utilities the same way, I mean it's - we're down to where our billing is so we're able to operate and it looks like in our Income Tax Department the collections are up, thanks to Mr. Fox and Gayle in the Income Tax Department. So we're doing quite well in Finance. The Director of Law, we did put on a full-time Law Director. We figured it out that was, you know, just what we get from having somebody here every day more than pays for the operation. And again, those salary lines have been figured out to where they're charged to the appropriate departments. We have Council, there's not been much change there. We do still operate with a full-time Clerk and an on-call assistant as needed from an employment agency where we're not paying any benefits; we're just paying her as she needs. She's here a couple of days a week to free the Council Clerk who also operates the Civil Service – as the Civil Service Clerk. That's the Development Fund. The only question here is one item coming up on – under Capitol that I would probably ask to have excluded, is for a purchase of a new Ford Crown Vic for \$25,000 for Fire Inspection. I'm asking that be removed. There's no ...

Mrs. Kiesling: What page is that on?

Mr. Snyder: That's on page 29, I believe.

Mrs. Kiesling: You got ahead of me.

Mr. Snyder: 29, I'm sorry. I'm going quickly, I know.

Mrs. Kiesling: That's okay.

Mr. Snyder: But on page 29 there is a line item there for the EMS for a first responder vehicle. We've asked the Chief to go to two paramedics. It's imperative that he has a first response vehicle to send to the scene at the incident, and that was for that and that's not a problem. I don't see anything. The rest are pretty much - capital is down, we do not have a large item in there for capital improvements. The majority of our projects will be coming to us. A lot of water projects in the next week after next, we will be looking at that. Most of the capital this year is going to be done in enhancing and improving our water system. We've come off a very busy year and a very arduous job and thanks to the Department of Engineering on our Main Street Project. I mean, this man has brought about seventeen and a half million dollars in Federal, State, and local money that didn't cost the City anything. And we very much appreciate that Mr. Benekos, because we wouldn't have what we have today without it. That's probably basically, you know, and again, we operate fire suppression at a very, very low number. What is it, three hundred and seventy some thousand dollars? And for the money that we get versus the other, it's quite inexpensive. But if there are no general, directive questions, that's basically – I know that's quick and fast. It's a quick tutorial. We've looked at this. We've massaged it. We've looked at it every way from Sunday. The projected expenditures are just about \$7.9 million dollars of income tax money. We take in about 6.7, so we were fortunate where we had a carryover from 2012 to 2013 of \$1.8 million dollars, and that's going to fund the deficit difference between what we've taken in and what we're going to spend. The last two years, the last two budgets, we've spent more than what we've actually taken in due to the fact of our carryover. Our projected carryover for 2014 is about \$488,000. So you can see there's a significant difference. Impacted by the fact we no longer have the estate tax and the amount of local government funds that we had. Our state tax this past was \$1.2 million dollars. So that disappears. Our local government funds are down. At one time we were collecting near a million dollars, and now we're collecting less than \$300,000. So more of the burden is placed on the local government. The Mayor, through his office, has done a diligent job in seeking new jobs. I think we're up – I don't know, in the last two and a half years about 1,500 and some jobs in the City. I mean we're growing - small jobs come very small. And, we're working through the Community Economic Development. We're working through Marcia's committee to do some future CEDA's and some future JEDD's to bring in some more revenue. That's the only way we're going to grow ourselves out of this is to increase our revenue stand. Any other questions? If not, I appreciate the - and I very much appreciate the ...

Mr. Foltz: Appreciate your hard work. Appreciate the hard work on the budget, everybody involved. It's a long tedious project. So...

Mr. Snyder: I appreciate that. And I really want to thank Mike Grimes and Karen Alger and the Mayor's Office. I mean, this has probably been one of the hardest budgets of the 16 that I've participated in because the funds aren't there. And you have to keep going back and it's difficult to make decisions because it's people's livelihood and it's people's lives. It's the citizens that we represent. We provide a great product here, but it takes money. And it's each and every Council member working very diligently in their own wards and their own respective areas of their responsibility contributing every Monday and all through the week. It makes the job very worth doing and very much appreciated by the people. And I think they'll find that out next week. But that's about it.

Mrs. Alger: Jon...

Mr. Snyder: Yes, mam.

Mrs. Alger: I just want to let you know I gave you a whole packet of just various charts and pie charts ...inaudible... graphs. The Mayor has asked me do this since I started, and I really meant - been meaning to, but I think it more meaningful if you see it in a pie chart, and feel free to stop by and ask any questions, but I think that it reflects a lot of - I picked up all funds as a whole, that's every fund from fire to general to enterprise funds, water and sewer. And then I did just general fund and this goes back to what Councilman Foltz said, it's, you know, we're running this City as best we can. We just are getting cut in so many ways in the revenue flow. So I just wanted you to see it, you know, how the City is actually running throughout the years. So look at them and let me know if you have anything.

Mrs. Kiesling: Appreciate it. It's very helpful.

Mr. Snyder: Because if you look at the pie chart that we have, we operate now just about 78% on income tax. We used to be the other way around. I mean we used to take in two or three million dollars in income tax that we didn't need to spend. And if you look at the one graph, it will show you the two blue bars where we're actually, over the last two years, we've been deficit spending. And you know, people say, well how do you run your City without any increase in taxes? Well, we're fortunate that with diligent investments and planning we were able to have a significant carryover. And of course, our employees are down, we're down about twenty (20) some employees. So each time we do that it adds to the actual bottom line. And that's how we're able to do it.

Mayor Held: And if I could just comment.

Mr. Snyder: Mr. Mayor, please.

Mayor Held: Yes, Karen, these graphs are excellent because I think that, you know, hopefully what we can do is just on a regular basis, and it takes a lot of work to put these together, but I think that oftentimes we verbalize what's taking place financially here in the City. Bu, as long as we have these charts, you know, they are just regularly updated, you know, and other charts can be added too just to better reflect where the City's at. But even in looking at this when - Karen, when you gave the actual and projected general fund balances, and we've seen this before dating back - well back in 2006, you know, we were looking at a multi-million dollar deficit for 2010. And then, you know, we keep pushing that back, but then when you look at 2014, now we've got a deficit of 269 and 1.7 for 2015. It's just an ongoing process of continuous improvement, constantly evaluating our expenditures and our services. And it's always been a goal here in the City to be as cost efficient and effective and we can. But I think that these charts are excellent. You did a very nice job. Thank you.

Mrs. Alger: Well, if there's any that you think needs tweaked or additional one let me know.

Mayor Held: Very helpful. I love the pie charts here, too.

Mrs. Alger: Well, I, you know I kind of looked at 2005, I think it was, because that was some of the ones you have been looking at in the Mayor's Address...

Mayor Held: Yes.

Mrs. Alger: I took 2009, that's when more prosperous and kind of look at where revenue was coming in and then as of right now, 2013, the ones that are down. So...

Mayor Held: And Jon, did you make note of the property tax? The one already –

Mr. Snyder: Yes.

Mayor Held: the chart?

Mr. Snyder: And you know, that has, you know, even though we operate as a municipal income tax based City. I mean when that hits our levies, which are fire, EMS, and street and storm water. I mean, that's a ten (10) or eleven (11) percent decrease because they automatically ratchet down year by year anyway. That's the way they're set up. They're triggered to come down cause as the evaluation goes up. It's a significant number to us and it's a heavy impact.

Mayor Held: And one other slide while we're here. The local government funds ...

Mr. Snyder: Yeah.

Mayor Held: And that's just going down.

Mr. Snyder: That's significant, right.

Mayor Held: Over the past ten (10) years.

Mr. Snyder: That just keeps coming down. We're down now, I think this year alone we're less than \$300,000.

Mrs. Alger: Right.

Mayor Held: And our expenses, obviously, just continue to go up. Thank you very much.

Mr. Snyder: Thank you. Is there any other questions to come before the Council at this time and we move to the special meeting? If not, I'll have a motion to adjourn this portion of the meeting.

Mr. Foltz moved and Mr. Peters seconded to adjourn the committee meeting. All members present voting:

Yes: Foltz, Griffith, Kiesling, Peters, Snyder, Werren, Cerreta

No: 0

Meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

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PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST:

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CLERK OF COUNCIL

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