

July 7,

7:05 p.m.

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1. Call to Order.

Mr. Peters called to order the North Canton City Special Council Meeting for July 7, 2014 at 7:05 p.m.

2. Roll Call

The following members of council responded to roll call: Foltz, Cerreta, Griffith, Kiesling, Werren, Fonte, Peters. Also present were: Director of Law Fox, Director of Administration Grimes, and Engineer Benekos.

Peters asked for a motion to approve as presented the City Council meeting minutes for 6/9/2014, 6/23/2014, 6/27/2014; executive session minutes for 6/23/2014; and financial statement for 5/31/2014.

Mr. Foltz moved and Mrs. Kiesling seconded. All members present voting:

Yes: Peters, Kiesling, Cerreta, Werren

Abstain: Foltz, Griffith, Fonte

3. Reports.

Fonte: Nothing to report.

Werren: Just to, I have not been to the North Canton parade, and we're typically out of town for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. And the run and the parade were just so much fun. And, oh my gosh, to see the community come together and the police force, and the fire, and all the citizens, was just so, so cool. So great event and the YMCA did a great job. And, I'm assuming made a lot of money off that event too. So, good for them.

Mrs. Kiesling: No report.

Mr. Griffith: A couple kudos. Excuse me, along those lines. I think the, one of our couriers at the bank, was in a Corvette that participated in the parade. And he's not a North Canton native, and he said, "I didn't realize there were so many kids in this town". And that's a good thing too. They had a great time, and of course it was really a lot of fun. I have not been able to persuade them to allow me to ride in the Corvette, thus far, but we will. Similar, we had a really nice event a couple weeks ago, now with the North Canton City Schools, where they laid out there, and rolled out their vision for the future. And they did a great job and it wonderful thing to do. And again, it is a great model for us to follow and I appreciate their efforts there in trying to get everyone on board. But it was first class event and one that I would commend everybody. So, that's all I have.

Mr. Cerreta: Good, ah, a couple things, yes, the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, first-class event. The YMCA does the job, and we do whatever we can to help them with it so, kudos to everyone who did that. It's a wonderful community event that brings in a lot of people. And they're very envious a lot of times of us when they see our community in that manner. So great job for everybody. I did attend the thing with Dan at the schools, and I'll echo the that same thing. The schools are working on ah, some things that will really boost engineering, ah, things with the printers, grants that they've received. They brought in a lot of the community to see it, which is the right thing to do, to really bring people, you can only talk about things so long, but once people see these things of what they're doing, they're really going to be impressed, with what they're doing over there. And it's really going to put our school at a higher level. I also met with the Walsh folks and the Chamber to possibly develop an app for North Canton. Walsh wants us to go in with them and

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the Chamber to look at possibly looking at an app. App is kind of the way to go instead of web sites. People can touch apps and move to it. So I'd like to bring those in when we get back that the people that want to kind of work with us on that. Cost is minimal and we won't really have to care of it. I've talked to Mike about it, starting when we come back, I'd like everyone to take a look at that and maybe bring them in to show us what they want to do. It will also be a good way to, kind of partner with Walsh, which is, you know they kind of want this thing too, and the Chamber. And then the, lastly, Jim and I had met with the folks across the street on East Maple and maybe Jim can give more of a report that. Some of the things, of course I want to see, are pillars, our wrought iron fence, which seems to going our way. The trees, I've just met with someone who's going to donate the trees. I'll announce that later on. So that's a big cost that they would not have picked up. And some of the things we want them to do now on the north side. We want them to kind of follow of what we do on the south side, six pillars, a wrought iron fence over there. We'd like to introduce some up-lights. So there are a few things we'd like them to do and they are, they're mulling over it. Ok. So it was a very good meeting, and I'm glad Jim invited me to it. And I think the presence helped us maybe get what we want from council. So that's it.

Mr. Foltz: If it hasn't been brought up, but I think I talked to Eric about this, but thanks for his hard work on the post office, the Administration, the Council members continual discussion about it, finally got done. So kudos to Eric working hard at it. It's a thankless job, as you know. Sometimes we call and want immediate results from problems we have throughout our city. And it's a lot of asking and not a lot of thanks sometimes, so I want to thank everybody that was involved, especially Eric cause I know I bend his ear plenty on it, as well as many other people. And the same thing for the housing, everyone knows here I'm for rental registration, it was printed differently in the paper on the meeting I wasn't here. But I think we owe it to our residents, to our community, to have the strongest codes available for our housing, exterior and interior. And I'm going to be relentless in that pursuit and I hope that Council sees the wisdom of that in the very near future. So I want to thank you, Eric, when I do call Eric, I consider him a friend being here for so long, but also, he does get things done, it's just unfortunately the time process takes longer than anyone would want it to be. But, uh, wanted to thank Eric for that and just say that we'll continue moving forward for our city as far as the housing, as far as I'm concerned, and I'll bring that back this fall.

Mr. Peters: And also I'd like to echo Doug's comments in regards to Eric. Eric was on vacation last week and helped me on three different matters. And I didn't realize he was on vacation when I called him. He told me, I tried to get off the phone and he wouldn't let me go. He wanted names, numbers, and who to call and uh, you know Eric, I can't tell you how much we appreciate everything you do. I mean its... And also, to comment on the parade. I was there along with my family and my four kids. And they had an absolute ball. I mean that, its second to none as far in their world. I mean that's the highlight of their summer. So we had a really good time. Kudos to the YMCA and I, maybe a letter of commendation we can send over to Ben and his staff. So that's it for me.

Director of Administration Grimes: Just a little bit on the housing, we have the nuisance officer obviously he's out there looking at stuff. He's seeing some things in the law that he's not, thinks that maybe we could clarify. I'm collecting them. I'll have the law director review them, and then if we need to, we'll come to Council and strengthen those things up so he can enforce them. But we are trying to collect some of those things know that we're getting on it.

Engineer Benekos: As Councilman Cerreta mentioned, we're full steam ahead on the East Maple Street project. Tried to go through there lately, it's a little difficult at times. But it's progressing. We're hitting a few snags. But we have an excellent

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contractor, and we're working well with them. A few things we need to change in the design and running into some issues underground. But other than that it's moving along well and hopefully, it will be done by September.

Director of Law Fox: No report.

4. Final Call for New Business

Mr. Foltz: Just to mention that this is our last meeting until late August as far as scheduling.

Mr. Peters: August 14<sup>th</sup>. Second Monday in August, correct?

Mrs. Kiesling: Second to last.

Mr. Foltz: The 18<sup>th</sup>. Council meeting the 25<sup>th</sup>, unless some uh, pertinent, important situation arises and we call one.

Mrs. Kiesling: Right, right and then there's five in September, if you want, or did we motion to, I know we did a couple of years ago where we said every Monday holiday week we'd just cancel that meeting, because that would be the 5th, there's five Mondays.

Mr. Peters: Yeah, we did that at the beginning of the year I believe.

Mrs. Kiesling: Did we?

Mr. Peters: Pretty sure.

Mrs. Kiesling: Ok, that's what I thought. So we won't have one September 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mr. Foltz: Ok and with that last but not least, we have a recognition of former councilman and council president, Jon Snyder and Marsha has a plaque. Marsha, I'll hand it off to you.

Mrs. Kiesling: Alright, well I'm glad your wife made it tonight, Jon. So I just want to, I had a plaque made for him, I'll read it, it says, "Distinguished Public Service Award, Jon Snyder." North Canton City Councilman, Ward 4, 1998 – 2014. That is pretty awesome. Inaudible. Dedicated to North Canton community as a councilman, mentor, and friend. And we really appreciate your service. It's very personal for me, dating back 13 years ago this month, Daryl resigned, Tom Rice became mayor, and there was that at-large seat open. And crazy me, with a six-month old, and a four-year old, and a seven-year old, said, "Why not me?" And Daryl Revolt at church said, "Why not you?" So I came and interviewed right (inaudible) and really I don't know (inaudible) this would be awesome and I remember calling Jon the next day when they decided they were going to appoint me he just laughed and laughed and laugh. He said wow you really want this really bad don't you? He said don't worry kid, don't worry kid, it'll be okay. When I got here with husband I remember standing up being sworn in and looking at my husband and my husband's like what the heck (inaudible with participants laughing). Here we are 13 years later obviously well I was off these two years so 11 years with Jon but a dear friend of mine. I can honestly say I talk to Jon more than I do any of my friends in the last 13 years. Probably more than my mom so I know that's sad but it's true. (Inaudible) But I'm truly going to miss you up here Jon.

Jon Snyder: Thank you, I appreciate that.

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Mrs. Kiesling: You've been an asset to the finance, to Karen, to all you know finance directors, your knowledge and everything (inaudible). So we appreciate all your hard work, all the effort and the time. You know people talk about this being a part-time job not for Jon. I can see (inaudible) part-time job put 5 – 10 hours a week in: Jon definitely put 15 – 20 hours a week in. And he was up here a lot doing everything he possibly could to make things go right and we really appreciate that. So I will leave it up to you guys who'd like to speak I know (inaudible)

Jon Snyder: I appreciate that, thank you.

Mr. Peters: Jon could you a few words before you go?

Mr. Foltz: I wanted to echo a lot of what Marcia said you know I was here when you came here and when you put 16 years close to service as a council member and many of those years you were voted council president that's just a testimony to your abilities and your leadership qualifications and just your community interests that you have. And I want to commend you on that even didn't see eye to eye on some issues you were very professional, you explained your point of view very eloquently. And you had a good head on your shoulders and you handled meetings probably in a softer tone than I've done and that was refreshing in that sense because this can be a thankless job. You're not always going to make everybody happy. But you did a lot of great things for North Canton and I enjoyed serving with you and we'll all miss you up here but especially the time commitment that you had I think its takes a special person to want to sit in that chair and deal with the daily operations of just the council office and the budget and so forth. And its just when you chaired finance I don't think anybody could of done a better job you know during your ten years. So I wanted to congratulate and thank you for your service.

Jon Snyder: Thank you, Doug, that's kind.

Mr. Peters: Jon, I also wanted to thank you when I ran for council back in '02 you know I had no idea what I was getting into. And the first person to reach out to me was you. You actually you didn't it wasn't a phone call; you came to my home. You sat in my living room, you sat with me and my wife and my two young children at the time and you know you gave me comfort. I mean I was about as scared as could be you know not knowing what the heck I got myself into. And after talking to you put me in a comfort zone and ready to, ready to go work. I knew you put a lot of hours in I didn't realize just what you put up with sitting in this chair. It's to do it for as long as you did is absolutely amazing and I in a heartfelt thank you for your service and for being a friend and a mentor. No one could have done it better.

Jon Snyder: Thank you, I appreciate that.

Mike Grimes: Obviously, mayor couldn't be here tonight but he wanted me to make sure I passed along you know his respect and appreciation for your long service to the city. I think he saw you before he took off for the holiday. If I had a penny for every time you two talked I would be a rich man. I came here in '78 and you know you ran a clothing store you were quite the dapper dresser and you sold suits that I couldn't afford as a patrolman at that time. One thing that you did as I remember you is you wanted us to look well because we did wear ties back in the day; clip on ties and you'd send us up a box of ties just to make sure that we didn't look too raggedy out there on the streets. So I still remember that and I think the other time is when you remember you used to have to pick up your packets down at the police department on the weekends and there's no way you could sneak in and out without us you know cornering you over something. So I don't know how long it took you to pick up your packets but we usually kept you there at least a half hour, 45 minutes. And you always took the time to talk to us and then when I

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made a chief and now administrator you know you were always had the time to talk with me and you know counsel me and I really appreciate that because you've always been a very level you know it's the same no matter whether we agreed or disagreed or whatever and I respect what you done for the city. I appreciate it.

Jon Snyder: Thanks Mike, I appreciate that. Thank you very much.

Mr. Cerreta: Jon, just a couple things. You know growing up here and all just the longevity that you've had here. You're like a fixture in this town you've been through a lot of good, bad and ugly times through here you know with across the street and things that and you've helped lead this community. So I commend you on that and congratulations for retiring. And just for my own personal you know some of the growing pains that you have when you take over this thing you were always right there. And I think everybody should start that. So I personally really appreciate that and I'll always remember that. So congratulations to you.

Jon Snyder: Thanks Mark, I appreciate that.

Mr. Griffith: I agree with all that the personal mentorship that you have provided thus far and I will continue to demand of you of course as we have talked it means the world. I think we forget that politics is the art of the possible. But Jon you embodied that the art of getting things done which in local government is the most important thing that any of us do to be able to cut through that and find a way a path to success if at all possible. And I don't know of any of us who do it as well as you have done it too. So it's very much very well deserved.

Jon Snyder: Thanks Dan.

Bev: Jon, I just want to say a couple of things. I knew you the shortest amount of time but if you remember in the interview process well I did butter you up because I said you looked like a movie star. He has this look and I couldn't remember what show it was and he had that voice and so I think you can do a voice over career coming up. It might be way more awarding I don't know. But from that moment and just your, your genousness and your appreciation for who we were as individuals and even to our families. I mean every time we came in you would always say "you know how's your husband, how's your family or I saw this or I saw that" and that just you did it with citizens you did it with people that didn't like what you said, you did it with people that like what you said. And I just learned so much from you I think when Doug said I would handle those meetings very differently and you were always so patient and kind to everybody. And that that's hard to pull off and what I've learned in this year and a half I will take with me for the rest of my life and I will miss you.

Jon Snyder: Thanks Bev, I appreciate that.

Mr. Fonte: Hey Jon, so I'm the new guy on the block you make me feel really bad...

Jon Snyder: You're 100 pounds lighter.

Mr. Fonte: Obviously there's some big shoes to fill and I'm just like "man, maybe I bit off more than I can chew" but at any rate I appreciate you calling me and offering up some you know if I need some guidance and help which I'm going to take you up on that. But I don't know if you remember but years ago (inaudible) you said you have to dress for success. So when I was doing my business I had no success so I had to basically fake it till I could make it I guess. Thanks for the advice there and hopefully the future advice will come to me to do a better job for the citizens here.

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Jon Snyder: Thanks Dominic I appreciate that.

Mrs. Kiesling: Go ahead Greg.

Greg: Yeah, I'd just like to echo everything council said I was there when he came I'd like to add one thing I certainly hope that Jon Snyder is not done serving this community. So (inaudible) thanks Jon.

Jon Snyder: Thanks Greg, that's kind. Well to my colleagues excuse me thank you.

Mr. Peters: No, that's a lot of emotion because we know how much you care Jon.

Jon Snyder: You know I hope people when they do realize I'm not here that they remember the passion I have for this city, the passion I have for the constituency that I served, my colleagues probably the finest group of men and women that I've had the pleasure to serve with, the administration, the law director, takes a lot of lumps but we enjoyed I was here you know most of you guys were pups when you started. We brought up Marcia you know she's very close to my heart. I'll miss it but you know circumstances will change as Greg said God willing things do change I may I return I'll be here I'll do whatever I can to help each and every one of you. My passions run very deep for the community. When I came here when I first came as a councilman in '98 when Daryl became mayor I remember Doug saying "may God how many recommendations does the man have" you know anybody in the community I probably sent 30 or 40 letters of recommendations. I wanted that job I ran unsuccessfully against Daryl who was a 20 at that time a 15 – 18 year veteran so I ran the race I knew what it was like. I knew what I was getting into and I inherited probably the worst infrastructure in the 4<sup>th</sup> ward as well as the flooding at the Zimber. And I worked 18 years on the Zimber and finally hopefully sometime maybe this end of July or August we'll see the fruits of our first group of homes to be purchased and continue on there. Because that's been a challenge. I've seen we purchased a golf course which we got criticized for. It was probably financially and trust me finances are my background that's what I'm schooled in it was a good investment for the city. We put \$2,500,000 of our own money; we financed internally \$2,500,000 we received \$100,000 a year with a \$30,000 to \$40,000 profit at an interest rate and still have a \$4,000,000 property. So from the day one that was not a bad investment I mean it's probably less than \$500,000 left in debt and you have a property that you maintain for the people in depepitivity. It could have been 250 houses with a lot of roads and a lot of infrastructure and no money to service that. It's now paying the schools over \$50,000 - \$60,000 in year in income tax. So you should all be proud of that and anytime anybody says that it's a shame but it's a good investment. I was the architect on 17 balanced budgets; I was the architect with the deal with Aqua of Ohio which pays \$250,000 a year to the water department the second highest income earner in the community. There's many things to be done as I said when I came here we had \$23,000,000 in the bank when I left we only have about \$2,000,000. So that's not speak well of my ability to manage that money. But we did well. And we will balance the budget you guys will balance the budget in '15. I know you're going to come back and work hard to see for new income streams and that you just don't put the pressure on the citizenry. But again thank you very, very much for all your kind words I'll miss it you know I'm home I don't miss the public speaks but I do miss the I do miss the people and miss the talking I had a long term relationship with the clerk from the day she got here as an assistant to the day she resigned and a high degree of flattery when I told her I was leaving she changed her date from August 1<sup>st</sup> to June 1<sup>st</sup> just to compensate me. She's a good friend. Tim's a good man he's worked hard, he's learning the same as you are but he's a good, good guy. And I read in the paper but he was always honest and straight up with me and I do appreciate that always. You know there were many things it's not easy to do it. I mean you're serving 16,000 people and they all want your neck. You guys do a

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great a job. And to Jim Benekos probably one of the best engineers in the county we put a lot of pavement down Jim and I and we did a lot of things a lot of job, a lot of creativity. He's a good man and he'll probably only be with you a couple more years. To Mike Grimes probably the best administrator the city's had. He grew up on it he probably cut his teeth in there. You have a great chief of police now. Everything's in place so you can only go upward you can't backwards at this time. You're in the finest school system in the country; I mean it's all there just put it together. And I would be flattered to answer anybody's calls once in a while its better home sitting there and my wife's at her theatre so I'm there by myself just call me and let me know what's going on. Thank each and every one of you for, for your friendship and thank you very, very much for your kind words and thank you very much for the kindness that you've expressed to my wife I much appreciate it. Thank you.

Mrs. Kiesling: Alright, we have cake and punch I'm going to start cutting.

Mr. Peters: Are we going to close this meeting?

Mr. Foltz: Motion to adjourn?

Mr. Foltz moved and Mrs. Kiesling seconded.

All members present voting:

Yes: Foltz, Cerreta, Griffith, Kiesling, Werren, Fonte, Peters.

ADJOURN: Meeting adjourned at 7:32p.m.

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST:

NOT PRESENT

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

\* I listened to the audio recording to compare for accuracy with these minutes. On page 5 where the minutes reflect comments made by Bev those comments were made by Councilwoman Werren.

May Beth Bailey  
Clerk of Council.