

MINUTES FROM COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF NORTH CANTON
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2017

1. Call to Order

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: I'd like to call to order the Council Meeting Monday, September 11, 2017, 7:00pm.

2. Opening Prayer – Pastor Jake Tovissi, Canton Baptist Temple gave the opening prayer.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Roll Call

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, Pastor Tovissi. Clerk, please call the roll?

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

Thus having 7 in attendance.

Also present: Mayor Held, Director Grimes, Administration Services Director DeOrio, Law Director Fox, Engineer Graham and Finance Director Brown.

5. Consideration

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you. For your consideration may I have a motion and a second to approve as presented:

Council Meeting Minutes: August 28, 2017

Special Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes: August 28, 2017

New Liquor License to Family Dollar Stores of Ohio Inc., DBA Family Dollar 8362 700 N. Main St., North Canton, Ohio 44720

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: Motion to approve as presented.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Second.

Roll call vote of 7 yes to approve the above minutes and liquor license.

6. Recognition of Visitors:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Alright, thank you very much. At this time, if you wish to address council, please step forward state your name and address. Oh, I'm sorry, for the record there's some new folks in the audience, if you plan to speak tonight there's a five minute time limit, and you'll see it on the screen. The floor is yours.

EMIL GREARSSON: Good evening, good to be with you again. I'm like a bad penny, you can't get rid of me. Address is 10988 Sagebrush Ave NE, Uniontown, Ohio. I am the associate pastor at Holy Cross Lutheran Church. I was with you at your last meeting. I was able to offer the prayer. And I am just here tonight, hopefully you saw the goodies in front of you. I've been a pastor for about seven years now. And one of the things that I have always appreciated was when people recognized how difficult it was to be in the position I was in. And to make the kinds of sacrifices that I make. And make the kinds of decisions that I've had to make. Some that were unpopular, some that were wrong, when I look back. No doubt, you will have some unpopular topics and decisions that you need to make. No doubt, that you might look back at some point in the future and go "wow, that wasn't the right call." But you have put yourselves out there to be servants to the community. And we just want to say "thank you" for that, and for your willingness to serve. So again, my offer stands. If there's anything at all that I can do for you, you know, I am happy to be your pastor. If you have a home church and you don't feel comfortable going to your pastor about something. If you don't have a home church and you need somebody to talk to about anything, I am bound by my ordination vows to keep things confidential. And so I am happy to be of service in that way, or any other way that you might think of. So thank you again for your service. I won't be able to stay with you tonight, I am heading out of town so, I won't be able to catch up later. But hope to see you again sometime soon.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, reverend.

EMIL GREARSSON: You're welcome.

JILL KIRSCH: That's a tough act to follow, I didn't bring goodies for anybody. And I only planned for three minutes. So.... My name is Jill Kirsch, my address is 948 Pontius Street NW, Hartsville, Ohio. I operate Cripple Creek Feral and Friends, and I left some information for some of you. I didn't bring enough for everybody. I thought there were only eight. I operate Cripple Creek Feral and Friend. A registered non-profit dedicated to the trap, neuter and return of stray and feral cats. Trap, neuter, return is the process of trapping, spaying/neutering, vaccinating and returning cats to their home environment. They're also marked with

an ear tip, where the tip of their left ear removed to show they have been fixed. Since the inception of Cripple Creek in 2011, I personally have trapped 1,089 cats. With a large percentage of them residing within North Canton. This number does not include cats that have been trapped by other TNR trappers, or their caretakers. Many of which are sitting in the audience tonight. I don't like the term, don't like to use the term "feral cats", because most cats that you will encounter are not truly feral. And that term can be deadly if they are taken to a shelter or if that term is used by citizens filing nuisance complaints. Community cats is a more appropriate term, and encompasses all cats stray, feral or lost. I've presented you with information on how and why trap, neuter and return is a humane and effective approach to the issue of community cats. As well as material on why trap and kill or remove is ineffective, and results in a vacuum effect, attracting more unaltered cats. I've also included a copy of Sebring, Ohio's ordinance. You will notice that there are amendments marked in red that exclude community cats from the ordinance. Therefore allowing for a TNR program. I worked with Sebring's City Council last year, little over a year ago, and successfully got them to adopt the amended version. It is my hope that North Canton will be open enough to read through the material and consider amending their current ordinance which is very similar to Sebring's original one. Regarding free roaming animals and ownership. I am more than happy to speak with you directly to answer any questions you may have. And attorneys from Alley Cat Allies in Bethesda, Maryland are willing to help draw up an amendment to suit your needs. Grants are also available to adopt a TNR program within your community. I'm aware that several colonies in North Canton have become an issue recently. Even though these managed colonies have existed for many years. The cats in question have been fixed and vaccinated and yet property owners are being punished. I speak from experience with trap, neuter and return, and I have seen the results from it. Healthy vaccinated cats who no longer roam neighborhoods in search of females to mate with or males to fight with. Marking behavior cease and no new cats are brought into the equation. This, of course, reduces the number of nuisance complaints to your office. Caretakers are educated on the proper ways to feed and shelter the cats, as to not encourage wildlife to the area. Keeping the cats discreet and areas clean are key as well as feeding during daylight hours. Uneducated assumptions about community cats are that they are sickly, diseased and aggressive. This could not be further from the truth. I thank you for your time and openness to further explore a humane solution to the community cats' issue. Thanks.

ROSEMARY SENTER: I'm not very good at this, but I'll try and get by it. I live on Applegrove Street in North Canton. Have been a North Canton resident for 20 years. Really love this town. I think we have the best police department around. And I think we have one of the best council people around. But I am a little bit prejudice, I guess. I would like to speak to the deer population up on North Main Street. I have been in contact a few times with the mayor in regard to my concerns, last winter or before last winter started. I'm concerned about people, about being concerned about their living there, and people feeding them. If some people last winter had not gone to feed them, and I'm talking the bambies. They still had white spots on them last winter. They would have died. Their skin draped over their ribs and their bones. And if they had not feed them, they would have perished and died. The people of North Canton who chose, and they chose to go there to feed those deer, are rewarded a thousand times fold. Children that go there with their parents to watch them feed the deer, will give them little apples in between the fences pieces. Their parents tell them about the deer, and how beautiful they are. And everybody just is astounded that they're there. And I don't think anybody has any idea how much pleasure those deer give people every single night. I know there's concerns, and I've heard rumors about concerns, about the Stark County Health Department saying "oh, there's too much food on the ground, it's going to attract rats." Well, I'm sorry but there are raccoons that live in there. Raccoons are a forest dwelling creature. They're going to live there. Whether there's food out there or not. I have been there enough times in the evenings, and during the day where people have fed those deer. And there is not one iota piece of food left on that ground when I leave at night. Not one piece. So there is no food for the rats to come and get. And if they want to talk rats. I suggest they conduct some investigations into some of the businesses around that area where the deer live. In their dumpsters. And for instance, I have been by Pizza Hut, I can't tell you how many times when their itty-bitty little dumpster is all over the ground. If we're going to talk about rats, that's going to attract a nice big population. And quite honestly, if it wasn't for the three feral cats that live in the woods up there, they probably would be there. And there are feral cats that live back in there. In the woodpile. Where you can go buy wood. That's nothing but a rat infested place for them to hide. And I'm telling city council that they really need to think hard about making any decisions about that. And I spoke to Mayor Held, and he was very patient and very kind with me, to talk to me about this issue. Before last winter rolled around. People go there to take pictures through the fences. They think it's astounding, that they're there. And you really need to think about it, it gives people pleasure. And I'm telling you especially this week with the hurricane coming. And the devastation in Houston and Texas, and Florida now. There are things in this world that give people a little pleasure. And those deer give people a lot of pleasure. So don't take something away from them and punish them. And don't punish the deer. They love those deer. So think about, before you make a decision. Thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, Rosemary.

MELANIE BROEMSEN: I live at 1848 Beechwood. And I'm here to talk to you about these guys today. And to speak specifically about the trap, neuter, return program that Jill has been involved with. I came home from work about four years ago, walked out onto my porch and saw mommy cat and six more baby cats. And shortly after that mommy cat had five more cats. And they are relatives of the cats that are behind Pizza Oven, and that are being, you know, displaced. And I think from these pictures, and I think you'll see that they are very loving, and warm. And it breaks my heart to think that someone would want to try to move their family. Since Jill, and some of the people in my neighborhood have through with the trap, neuter, return program, we have had no new cats. The cats are well cared for. They are vaccinated against rabies, other diseases. If they get hurt or sick, they go to the vet. Just like the cats that live indoors. And they've even gone for dental exams, which these guys haven't had. Some of the actual outdoor community cats. Because of this relationship now, I have also been up in Kmart, and also seen the deer. And I can tell you, again, that I've spent enough time up there to see. I understand there's traffic up there with people coming and stopping and standing and loitering. But there are so many parents up there bringing their children to see the deer, to feed them. And these are people that like go out of their way to go buy feed, and haul it up here. From Uniontown, and

Jackson, and different areas, they're coming here. And they love it. And I just can't believe that we would want to get rid of something that makes our community so nice. And that's Tiny and Little D., by the way. That's all I have to say.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, Melanie.

JEREMY MIKA: I live at 402 Adena St. I have a couple papers here. I come on behalf of the residents of Adena Street, with the noise that's being emitted from Controlled Powers during their night shift, and during their day operations. So I'm asking, see if council, I've talked to Mark Johnson about this noise ordinance and nothing came about it. So I wanted to address it to city council, see if there's anything that they could do. See if we could actually have them to shut the doors during their times of operations. Because we believe that Controlled Powers is in violation of section, or code section 1139.11. And that's pretty much stated that any noise being emitted louder than average traffic noise is a violation. And I know that Controlled Powers is light industrial, but I've got a couple sound clips so you guys could hear the noise. This noise is during the day, it's just the press that they run. They don't run it continuously, but they run it the majority of the time during the night, and they run it throughout the day, at different times. This is at nighttime. You can also hear a sound machine that we have running for our two kids in the middle night. Our windows are closed, and the sound, the pounding is actually louder than the sound machine.

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: Was that in your house? You took that.

JEREMY MIKA: That was in the house. This is from Controlled Power, this is from our house. We're on the corner of the Adena and Taft. So, and this is just like the intercom, the average, just the normal business sounds they have just coming through. On your piece of paper we've highlighted, or we circled some houses. Me and my wife actually walked down to these residents to see if they could hear the noise, themselves. And the houses that we stopped to, they all admitted that they could hear the noise. Even all the way down to Pershing, and Pershing and Adena. And, so we were just seeing if there's anything city council could do and just see to help the residents out there. And another issue I wanted to bring up, is the parking issue with the trucks. Some of them have the common carriers. Mostly they're out of state, or they're not local. They'll park along Taft, and they will block residents' driveways. And I was seeing if city council could even consider putting up signs "no truck parking." So that it would help discourage trucks from parking there. My wife has actually had to ask these truck drivers to move their trucks, a couple times. So she could just get out of the driveway. And I think this is a safety issue. Especially if there is an emergency, I don't want to have my wife sit there and go find somebody to move their truck so she could have somebody, so she could get to where she needs to be. So I feel that this is a safety issue. And I'm more than willing to sit down with any councilmembers. I've got plenty of videos, sound clips. I just want to see if there's something that we could do. And if there is something that we could do, how can we enforce this? That's all.

CHUCK OSBORNE: (read from a prepared statement) 307 Fairview Street SE, North Canton, Ohio. I see by tonight's agenda that you guys earlier had approved the minutes of the August 28th City Council meeting. Can anybody here hold up the minutes that I have assumed you got in your packet? I take it nobody. Do you have the minutes a copy of them, and I hope, that hopefully you have read before you voted to approve them. As many of you know, Mr. Foltz, maybe Mr. Cerreta, and Mr. Griffith, I'm not certain Mrs. Kiesling know that years ago the minutes that you were about to approve at the next meeting were made part of the packet. That has stopped here in the last four, five years. I don't know why. Now I was startled here, back at I guess it was your May meeting, to hear Mr. Cerreta and I think Mrs. Kiesling say that you've never even read Planning Commission minutes. Do you actually know what you're approving? Now last night I made a records request for a copy of the approved minutes for August 14th, which were approved at your August 28th meeting. Two weeks ago. They still aren't on the city's website. It takes about one minute to post those minutes. And I made a records request for the draft minutes for the 28th meeting. I haven't gotten them. So I don't know what's been approved. And I don't think they meet the code requirements. Which says the clerk of council shall keep an accurate and complete journal of all proceedings of council. Again, years ago, the meeting minutes were more detailed than we're getting today. Mayor Held, North Canton Mayor is required by charter to attend the meetings. How do we confirm or verify that he's been to the meeting. Because it no longer lists the rest of you who were at dais here. Years ago it would identify Mayor Held is here, City Administrator Grimes is here, Finance Director Brown, Law Director Fox. We're not getting any of that, you're stripping vital information out of these minutes. Now I've talked several of you about documenting attendance at Council meetings of your fellow members. And we've had a councilmember here recently, I won't mention the name at the moment, I'll save that for another day. Who just gets up and walks out during the meeting. Now you're elected representatives, think you're here representing their interest, and you're here at the meeting. And you're getting paid. We're not documenting that individuals are just walking out and leaving in the middle of the meeting. And I want to look at the August 14th meeting and see if it was noted that a certain councilmember, and by the way, this is a new phenomenon that had just started here recently. The way these minutes are being documented, you read them and you think "well, my councilmember was there for the meeting." What's your problem? But the meeting minutes are not accurate, they do not comply with the charter. So I would like a copy of the meeting minutes, again Mrs. Bailey. I am very disappointed in your lack of professionalism in the way you're handling your clerk duties. By the way, I also mention I came in here several years with my wife to look at the council minutes, expect to see them all bound in those archival copy paper, numbered papers, they're just being printed on regular paper and stuffed into a file folder now. They're not being safeguarded in the vault. Does anybody know what's going on in the office? This is no way to run a railroad, I'll tell you. Thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Larry, come on up.

LARRY TRIPP: (read from a prepared statement) 1127 East Maple, North Canton. I vowed my wife I wouldn't come and speak for a while. Because I was going to let the candidate see, you know, speak for themselves. But just choosing your words, I just had to come up. I just had to come and say what I'm going to say. For you, that don't know me, I've been critical of the

unprofessionalism of our city council during the past five years. I've been outspoken. And I think rightfully so. So in reading a recent article in the Stark County Political Report dated August 28th, I come across this. It's about Mr. Peters, our council president. He makes a Facebook post, I'll read it. So someone sent this picture of Chuck Osborne to me today. He is videotaping a sitting councilwoman attending her daughter's home opener soccer game. I'm assuming he's angry that she had the audacity to attend her daughter's soccer game, instead of a committee meeting last night. Not surprised that he only employs his bully tactics on the female members of council. Moral to the story, if you ever think your life stinks, just remember you are not this guy. Wow. And I say wow. A double wow. This comes from supposedly a professional. A city council president. Terrible, absolutely terrible. Is that a lie? Huh?

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: A lie.

LARRY TRIPP: I called you out, and when you called all politicians thieves, and crooks, and criminals. And you sat there and laughed. And I read it in the minutes the next week. But that's fine. Terrible. And you as city council condone this conduct. Then to top it off, I read in the crime report of the Repository for the City of North Canton as follows: a Fairview Street SE man, 68, reported that a known suspect pushed his video camera out of his hand while the victim was recording the suspect and his wife at a high school soccer match. An investigation is pending. Huh, I wonder who that might be. Just wonder who that might be. But anyway, these folks are taking you city council down, they're taking the city down. It's embarrassing. It's embarrassing to the education system that educated you. Any high school, or college that you may have graduated. It's embarrassing. It's embarrassing to the city to read a post like that. Terrible, absolutely terrible. So, the moral to my story tonight, my speech, is we have an election coming. Citizens of North Canton here me, you have four votes to make, Kelly for mayor, Revoltz for council-at-large, Boyajian, council 4, and Snyder in council 3. And then ladies and gentlemen vote "no" on every charter amendment, vote "no." They're just an outlet for the ladies of this council not to do their job. Thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, Larry. Anyone else wishing to address council, please step forward, state your name, and address.

SUSAN DUKEMAN: 3775 Lakeland Street in Uniontown, and I practically live in North Canton. But not quite. Mayor, president of council, member of council, it's not easy being a public official is it? I've spent most of my life working at various levels of government. And I'm the policy wonk in the room, I think. I've realized what difficult decisions you're going to have to make about the problem with the animals. And I will tell you this. If I had had a daughter, I would wish that she would be like Jill Kirsch. She's dedicated, she's smart, and she knows what she's doing. You've got an absolutely wonderful resource here. To help you formulate your policy on how you deal with this problem. And a good policy can reduce the number of complaints for more people standing up here addressing you about what are you going to do about this issue. I really encourage you, you've got a room full of experts here. I happen to have six cats, and I married a seventh. So, we know a little bit about this. And it was Jill, who helped us with this. Sorry, Rog. But we really do encourage you to look at the resources we have. If you go online, you're going to see the same concepts are proven by humane society after humane society, on what to do with this population. And you know you can't kill everybody you don't like. And it's the same thing with animals. So, limiting the procreation is probably the safest way. I thank you for your time.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, Susan.

SUSAN DUKEMAN: You're welcome.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Yes, ma'am.

CHAR GALLAGHER: 8062 Cleveland Ave NW, North Canton, Ohio. I'm here to talk about the feral cat scenario. But I want to tell you I just came from feeding the deer, at Kmart. Right before I came in. I was shocked when one came right up to the fence and refused to eat from what I threw over the fence. He wanted it from my hand. I put my fingers in through the fence, and he gently took my Burger King bun. I love those deer. They give me peace, joy, and it's better than going to the zoo. I've taken my son there. I've told him about the magical kingdom. And while I was there, there were three children that got out of a truck. Mom and dad watched as they handfeed the deer. I don't think it gets any better than that. Especially in this world we live in today. We need that peace of mind. To know that there's something good, and happy, and very close to us. That we can reach out to. And I also looked at the ground, and there wasn't food left all over. As Rose said, those deer eat it up. So I would ask you to reconsider about that deer population. They are as harmless as a dog, or a cat. I was shocked when they took the food right out of my hand. That was the first time. And as far as Jill and her rescue, I have one of her feral cats that I took in six years ago. I didn't know Jill, she was a friend of a friend, of a friend. It's been the best thing that ever happened to me in my life. I know her tireless devotion, dedication and selflessness. I've known her to be out sitting and trying to trap these cats to take them to one of a kind's spay/neuter and return as late as 10:00 at night. I've never seen anybody like her. And as Sue said, if I had a daughter I'd want her to be Jill. And I thank you for your time.

(Jill Kirsch spoke out from the gallery)

JILL KIRSCH: I did not pay these people.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Is there anyone else wishing to address council? Okay, seeing none, we will move onto old business. May I have a motion and a second to read by title only the second reading of Ordinance No. 78 – 2017?

COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH: So moved.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Second.

Roll call vote of 7 yes to read by title only the second reading of Ordinance No. 78 - 2017.

7. Old Business

8. Ordinance No. 78 - 2017 Personnel and Safety Committee

An ordinance amending Section 20 COMPENSATION, of Chapter 155 Personnel Regulations of Part One - Administrative Code of the Codified Ordinances of the City of North Canton, in accordance with North Canton Ordinance No. 5 - 2017, to rename the classification of "Director of Permits and Development" to "Director of Community Development."

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you. Exactly as it reads, simply to reflect the changes and duties of that position. So if there's no further comments, I'll entertain a motion to adopt the second reading.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: So moved.

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: Second.

Roll call vote of 7 yes to adopt the second reading of Ordinance No. 78 – 2017.

ORDINANCE NO. 78 – 2017 WAS GIVEN SECOND READING.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Alright, thank you very much. Reports, Member Fonte.

9. Reports - Council

COUNCILMAN FONTE: I just wanted to report that the roads are now complete. So we're ahead of schedule, compared to the last several years. Also, we have two streets, I think striping yet to be done. Easthill and Orion. Last two streets, okay. And if you notice on Glenwood, they're making good progress from Zimber ditch all the way to the bridge with the Stark Park trail. Which is a 10 wide concrete path, it looks really nice, excited to use it. That's all I have for you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Member Werren?

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: Yeah, couple things. The Easthill paving was completed, and looks really nice. It was like the perfect weather, and the sun was setting, and it just looked beautiful out there the other day. So Rob, thank you. And I've emailed Rob a couple times, and Rob just gets back to you so quickly, and I appreciate that. And to community members it's important we get back to people. In a couple weeks, we're going to be hearing more about Fieldcrest. So I did take the opportunity, and Tim helped me with this. But to the residents close to Fieldcrest, I did, there was a lot of confusion going on around in our neighborhood. In Monticello. So I did send an email through our association, administrator to those residents, kind of just background history. How it came to be, when I was at the Planning meetings, kind of what occurred, and some different things. So that's something you're going to see in the near future. Tim had called me last week about the cellphone tower. That we talked about last year, at First Friends. And that recently we needed an easement for that property. So when we were going through that process, our Planning, like I said it went through zoning, the Zoning Board said it was fine. It passed all of their regulations except for the easement that needed to happen through Canton City. And that has gone forward, they were granted an easement. So you'll be hearing more about that. I'm sure there will just be more to talk about that. But I did want to let you know about that. Tim was there, anything else about that? Just a kind of heads up that will be coming. It will come back to our group. But then it should go through relatively quickly. Because they did pass everything the first time around. And Jill, thank you, for coming. I work with Leadership Stark County. I'm the director, and we're always looking for people on our citizenship day that speak on advocacy. I'm already like "I've got to talk to you." Because what you do is important. And you're a true advocate, you know, for little things that don't have advocates always. So thank you for coming, and thank you for all the people coming. It's nice to hear from so many members, and sorry about my cough and disrupting people's conversations, for the fifth week. So thanks for coming.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Member Kiesling.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Yes, just FYI. We're going to having a CIC meeting next Monday night at 6:00. If anybody wants to join us. It's the first one of this year. And as far as Fieldcrest, I think we are going to put it on the agenda to start talking about it next week. So anybody have any questions, anybody, you know, want to do any extra homework before you get here. Plus, any information we can gather, maybe get all the Planning Commission minutes together, and make them part of our packet this week. Hopefully that last set is done, I don't think they are, though. Maybe we can ask Linda to get that last set done. But maybe gather all that too. So, just FYI.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Member Griffith.

COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH: Along those lines, I had the pleasure of attending the BZA meeting from last month. And Stephanie was there as well. And Jessica Stroia, who's in the room was also in attendance as a member. And I think it was an interesting process, it was well done. We had some really good conversations subsequent to that, with Tim and some other folks about just some ways to make the process easier for those who participate. A lot more user-friendly.

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: I think Tim tries to really guide them and kind of say "you need to meet this, this, and this." But even if there's ways beforehand.

COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH: It's some good handouts from this. So like pamphlets along the lines of "so you've applied for a variance", kind of, you know, one of those things. I think that's what we're talking about too. So I appreciate the input and I think we've got some good ideas. I've talked to a couple members of the board as well about some things that could happen. So, secondly, I just want to say a special thank you to the administration. I think the new Facebook page for the city is fantastic. And we're always concerned about, and hear legitimate complaints about how we don't communicate well enough. And we obviously need to do more to continue to do that. I'm reminded of that as I get a call saying that you know next Thursday is picture day at the middle school. So we're getting, as a parent communicated to. But I think the Facebook page is another really good step in the right direction. It's got a great tone to it, good information, and I'm glad to see a lot of people participating, it's been really helpful. So congrats to the administration on that. Great, great thing. That's all I've got.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Member Cerreta.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Couple things. First of all, a lot of good passionate people here at the meeting tonight. Whether it's about cats, or deer, or council people, you want to vote for. I mean that's what you need in a community, is people to stand up and talk, and give their views. And really appreciate hearing about that kind of stuff. We don't get this many people. That's the most we've ever had, I think that's one of the records here. I think. So, thank you. Keep coming back. The only other thing I really have, is the guard shack. The heritage society got with me on that. They're getting ready to kind of rev up to put the stuff in the guard shack. They're going to put another light in there. We've going to help them put a light in there. We're going to get it cleaned up and painted on the inside and make it look, they're then going to continue to make it look like it was at one time. We have the stuff downstairs that we took out of it. So I just want to say, the progress of that is coming along. They haven't forgotten us, and they keep contacting us. There's a couple things that we're going to do for them with electric to put in there. And they're going to put in the lights, and they're going to put in a fan. So you'll probably see some people working out there. If you're wondering why, that's why. They're going to put some panels in there, showing the history of North Canton. And the light will shine through on those. So that's kind of the part of the plan for the guard shack. So that's really all I have for this evening.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, Member Foltz

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: Thank you. Thanks to the administration, I see the speed limit signs are up on Portage, and working. So well done there. Been after that for a little while, as everybody knows. The two are both operating here at Charlotte and Portage, and we have additional just 25 mph speed limit signs put up too. I think are on Parkview, I think it's a nice setup. Hopefully, we'll get people to slow down, and adhere to the speed limit. I'm already kind of watching and monitoring traffic. I think it's working so far. I mean, anywhere in the city it's nice. Because you sometimes, you don't realize how fast you are going, so I think it's nice. Pat, do you know when that kicks on, is it like 100 feet before the sign, or?

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIRECTOR DEORIO: Yes, it varies by location. In some areas where we have a bigger straightaway, we can increase it to, you know, probably 100 yards or so. But the one where you're at is probably 50 yards. Because we catch that turn coming off of Pittsburg onto that, and allowing people to kind of get up to the speed before we, we felt that if we pushed it too far down that way and as they're coming off Pittsburg they're really not at the proper speed yet, that they think they should be at. And it's got a lot of value telling them that they're going 20 and they're revving up. So we want to let them get to what they think the proper speed is, and then advise them they're not at the proper speed.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: Well, thanks for getting it done. Appreciate council's support, and the residents who really were spearheading this, that live in that neighborhood. So, thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: And I've noticed an increase usage in the mobile trailer unit as well. The speed, you know, that's very helpful. I've come across that three or four different times, and have realized that I'm going faster than I thought I was. So it's a good reminder. So please pass along that we thank them for their efforts. And also, I want to thank all the folks that came up tonight advocating for the cats, and the deer. I've spoken with Rosemary, at least, a handful of times. And we've talked about it. I've taken my kids up there, and feed the deer. We love them as well. So, and Jill, thank you for your good work. If we could get your information, was there, it is in here? Okay, maybe I was going through it too fast.

(Jill Kirsch spoke out from the gallery)

JILL KIRSCH: I'll give you a couple extra.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Okay, I appreciate it. But thank you again, for your good work in advocating for those, that can't advocate for themselves. Appreciate it. Director of Law?

10. Reports:

LAW DIRECTOR FOX: Yes, sir. To assist, hopefully, some of the members that came this evening to address council. Just a reminder on the roles of elected officials. That if you wish to change laws, introduce new laws, or change the ones that we have or remove the ones that we have, that is absolutely a city council member's role. So if you want to change something, add, these are the folks to see. If you wish to enforce a law that we already have, council is prohibited from doing that. That entire role is to administration. So for noises, for blocked parking, those types of things, city administrator. That absolutely will be done, heard the quickest amount. If you go to a councilmember, absolutely that councilmember from your ward or at-large will go through administration. So it will speed it up a little bit for you. Absolutely support TNR programs. I have had four cats, each one of those were rescues. I've seen that program work in a number of places. And that's absolutely something that would require amending our laws. So, lobby your councilmembers. I can't change that for you. I will absolutely support it, but those are the ones that will make that type of decision. So absolutely, thank you for coming this evening and speaking, bringing a packet. Having the forethought to show legislation that puts it into place. That really helps it move through that process. They say changing government is like steering an aircraft carrier. It gets done, it just takes a while. And the reasons for that is that legislation through the normal process takes time. So members of the community understand what's happening, they can come out as you did this evening to speak. And to lobby members for things that you wish to push forward. So those of you that are behind this, these are the folks to see. As I said, I will do everything I can to help. But direct your efforts there. See this side, the mayor, the administrator for enforcing those rules. That's all. Thanks.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Good stuff. Thank you, Tim. Director of Finance.

FINANCE DIRECTOR BROWN: Alright, I have four items for you tonight. Because you know I love numbers. So we'll go with four. The first one is Regional Income Tax Agency, RITA, who we all know and love. Sent out letters to 1,278 of our residents today. And those letters were for people that did not file a tax return. So you may start getting some calls, mayor as well. If they got one of those letters, it could be something as simple as somebody that retired last year, and didn't have income. And you know had filed in the past. So it could be something easy to straighten out. Could be somebody that, you know, earned income and just didn't file, didn't either know about it or follow through on that obligation. So they do need to contact RITA to get that taken care of. And we're going to put that specific contact information on our website in the next day or two. For that collections department, so those letters went out today. Second item I have is our 2016 audit was released by the state late Thursday. That's on the auditor state's website, and we're also getting it on our site. That audit was a clean opinion it had no comments, no recommendations. So it was very good results. And I really credit the finance staff for that, because I was only here for part of '16. So they kept things going well, during the transition between finance directors.

COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH: Laura, could I interrupt you just to say, this is the second year in a row we've had no comments, and no findings in that audit. And that is extremely rare. So I think that's round of applause for Laura and her staff.

FINANCE DIRECTOR BROWN: Thank you. 3) Our city wellness program that has kicked off. We've had two of our three events. One was tonight at fire department, we signed up some of those folks. Last Thursday, we were down at service center signing up those guys. And then this Thursday, we will be here at city hall. Any councilmembers, mayor, if you'd like to sign up for the program, please come between 6 and 10, Thursday morning, we'll be right here in this room. You have to be fasting, so please don't eat for 8 hours before, but we'll give you breakfast when you go. We're calling our program "city strong," I don't normally wear t-shirts to council meetings. But made an exception for tonight. And we're trying to do some rev up of the community of employees with that city strong feeling. We came up with the name, Shanna and I, and then somebody pointed out to me well the schools have "Viking strong." And I hadn't really thought about that. But it's kind of a nice coincidence. Because, you know, maybe all over town we're really going to have that feeling of moving North Canton forward and being strong. So I think that's a good thing. And that is a free program to our employees and partially grant funded. So that's a nice thing that we can offer to them. And then my fourth item, this is going to be the long one. And the one with lots of numbers. So, hang in there. Our insurance fund, for those that don't know. The city is self-insured. Which means that we pay a small premium to Aultcare each month, but then the bulk of our cost is the actual claims. If I go to the doctor, which you can tell I need to today, then that actual cost comes back to the city, and we pay those bills. This year those claims have been very low. We've just been fortunate, we haven't had any major illnesses in our employee group, which is group. But the fund that we have for a reserve to pay for those claims continues to grow. Part of the money in that fund is from other city funds. So general fund, street, water, all those pay in every month on behalf of those employees. Part of the money in that fund is employee share, so it comes out of all the employee paychecks. What I'm proposing that we do, because that fund has grown about \$125,000 this year. So far, it looks to be trending that way. Is in the month of December to do a premium holiday. So what that means is we wouldn't take health insurance out of the employees check that month. And we wouldn't take it out of the city funds that month. So we'd keep fund kind of in balance, which is a good thing. That we're in that fortunate position that we are. In doing that, it would save city funds about \$87,000 for the month, it would save employees, a single employee would save them about \$77.00, family about \$200.00. So something a little extra towards the end of the year. We also, I'm meeting with our healthcare consultant next Monday to find out what bids have come in for next year's healthcare program. So if that would be bad news, we obviously could pull this back. But from everything they've told me, it looks to be good news. So, that's excellent. And hopefully the wellness program drives that even further into positive. Anybody have questions on that? I know it's a little deep. Okay, awesome. Thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thanks Laura. Director of Administration?

DIRECTOR GRIMES: Yes, sir. First, we lost a city sign on Applegrove near Pittsburg, today. A car ran into it. The people are okay, but the sign lost on that one. So we'll have to replace that one. The street striping like you mentioned, just so you know, they

do the long section first, then they'll go back and do the shorter crosswalks. So if you see some that aren't quite done yet on the crosswalks, they're getting them. But they like to do the long ones at night, when there's less traffic, they can get those out of the way. The speed limit on Portage Street. I happened to be with Chief Minock this afternoon, and he let me know that they're going to do some monitoring and educating. They're not going to go out and, you know, start hammering people right away. We know it's been like for a lot of years. They're going to, you know, just be out there. But let people know their route wasn't changed. So I know on our Facebook page, we saw a lot of people concerned about that. The idea was not to raise money, or do any of that. It's just for safety out there. And that's the way they're going to approach it. And the other thing that I would ask for your indulgence, to just its September 11th, and maybe a moment of silence to remember those 2,977 that died, 6,000 that were wounded, and all the brave acts that were done on that date. If we could, sir.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Yes, I think that's a great idea. We'll do that right now. Alright, thank you. Thank you, Mike. Mr. Mayor?

MAYOR HELD: Yes, I'd like to thank all of you for coming here tonight. We have, this is a big audience, and, you know, one of the things that I appreciate most, is for all of you that are here, for the feral cats and also for the deer, Rosemary, and Jill, and Susan, and Melanie, and all the rest of you. I have never seen so much information backed with so much about the feral cats. And I think it's great. I think it's fantastic, because there was a number of years ago, we had a property, and there was a farm. And it was about 20 years ago, and we had one cat that we had found at the barn. It was the only one. And shortly after that, she had a litter of kittens up in the attic of the house. And then about six months after that, three of the kittens had litters of kittens. So in less than one year, we had a total of 27 cats. And I didn't think that they, and there was only one known tom cat in the area. I think that's the term for them, right? Whatever the politically correct term is. But, and that cat just kept coming back and I've never seen anything like it. Where they kept reproducing. And then of course, we're scrambling to find them homes. They were reproducing faster than we could find homes for them. So it was a real challenge. The good thing was, that we did end up finding homes for all of them. But that was like the first introduction that I had as far as, you know, the importance of neutering them. Or spaying them. So, I think this is a great program. I think it's really kind of new, as far as, you know, the trap and the spay and neuter and the release. Because I think that there was, and I'm just speaking from my own perspective. There was maybe not as much confidence that the program worked that well. And, but this is real clear. You have a lot of evidence that it does work. Because I was told, and this was not too long ago, that once one of the, if the cats are removed from the area that there's the vacuum, and they just fill that area back with other cats. And the cycle just continues. But if you spay and neuter the cats that are in that area, that it keeps other cats from coming in, and you don't have an increase. Which I think is a great concept. And I did talk with our veterinarian down at Stark County about their spay program, and I'm not sure if that's where you take the cats and the dogs. This is at the Stark County dog pound. So she was a real strong advocate of that program, too. So I think a lot of it is just getting the word out. And I know all our council people here are, they do a great job too by the way. And I just appreciate all the work that they're doing. Because it's not always an easy time. Because you try to make as many people as you can happy. But one thing I must also say too, is how all of you conduct yourselves is very impressive. Because you're very passionate about what you believe in, in protecting the animals. And you're also nice and polite about it. You've always been nice and polite, every time I've talked to anybody. You know, you always qualify everything that you don't want to create trouble, you just, you know, want to make a difference. And we greatly appreciate that. So keep up the good work. And if you're able to, those of you after the meeting is over with, if you could stay and just maybe we could talk a little more about this program. Get something on Facebook, and let people know. Then as far as the Hoover property. Councilman Cerreta and I believe all of the councilmembers, Dominic had a chance to talk with Stu Lichter from IRG. And if not, then they will be talking with him. And so the goal, when we look across the street over at the Hoover Company, it was not moving along as fast as we would like at all. And we certainly didn't like the dirt that's piled up out there. And the inaction that was taking place. And so we had a meeting with Stu Lichter. I had a couple meetings with him, and he also met with councilmembers, and or spoke with them over the phone. And we let him know that, you know, keeping the dirt piled up there is really a disrespect to the community. That building across the street there has been there for nearly, and it's been manicured and taken care of for decades. Decades. And we don't want to minimize, I don't want to villainize anybody, because they, IRG, Stu Lichter has done a fantastic job. A fantastic job of redeveloping that property. And if was not for him and his company, we would not have the 1,100 jobs that we have in there right now. And our city would not have made a comeback financially like we have. So we were bringing in \$7 million dollar income tax back in 2000, and it dropped to \$5.4 million. And now this year, I believe, this last year was the first year that we're back over \$7 million. So I don't want to get extreme, you know, in one sense, we're not happy with the front lawn. And he had given us his word that he was going to take care of it. And what they wanted to do was change their approach. Rather than doing the residential units first, right, they wanted to shift their resources to the retail first. Which was the front lawn area. And then that way, they could get the parking lot taken care of. And the retail in there, and then focus on the 130 units. Is that correct? And so, we were very pleased with that. And he said he would make that a priority. And he said it wasn't his intention at all to be disrespectful to the community. Or the people that live here. Or the people that have worked there. The generations of people that have worked there. But to us, you know, we take, we take it very personal. Because the Hoover Company has been a tradition of excellence for over 100 years here. So he gave us his word, and his commitment that he would finish the parking lot, and that he would put in the retail first. So we're really, really pleased with that. So I think we're going to see positive things here at the end of this year. And the beginning of next year, with Stu Lichter, and IRG. Then the next item we have, Jeremy, this issue was brought up a few years ago. And I don't know if you lived in the house at that time. Really I think what we can do is talk to Myers Controlled Power. And in the winter, it seems, and I think you agree with this, that the noise problem doesn't seem to be an issue. Right? When the garage doors are closed. But then when it gets hot out, they open up the doors and then they have that horrible, screeching that you played. And it's unbearable. There's no reason for anybody to have to go through that. Nobody would want to go through that. And also with the trucks parking. I think that if we communicate with Myers Control, maybe put up some signs in that area, we can address that. Because I know that we've done

that before, as far as the noise. And I think we can accomplish the same thing for that. So I know that we'll have Patrick and Mike Grimes on our staff, they're going to look into that right away. And thank you for bringing it up. And also the recording too. Because that did not sound pleasant at all. And if that's what you're listening to, there is no need anybody to listen to that noise. Because it was just annoying listening to it in this council meeting for just a few minutes. A few seconds really. And the other item is, we've got good news for those of you who wanted to see the Walsh University islands removed. We're going to take the island out. And, you know, in design, it looked great. It looked great on paper, and we were working with Walsh. Originally, the goal was to put in a Walsh University district to mark that area, so that they could, people would know that they were entering Walsh area. You have a lot of college students going back and forth, and crossing the street. So originally, we were going to put up the boulevard in the middle so that the students, so that it would look beautiful. But then also the students wouldn't jaywalk. So that they would have to be forced to go to a light, because we didn't want any one of them to be hit. You know, by a passing car. The problem was though, when we originally designed that, the fire truck couldn't make it down the middle lane because it was gone due to the trees that we placed there. So then we thought we would compromise and put, what, four of them, two on each end. And this was the first one that was placed. And obviously it drew a lot of concern. When you look at the typography. As you're coming up on a hill, the visibility was a problem. So we've talked with Walsh. We had Mark Cerreta met with the representatives from Walsh. Also Mike Grime, and our city engineer, Rob. And so they collectively agreed that we would remove, and this is in accordance with our president. And so he wanted to put pass this message along, this is Richard Jusseaume from Walsh. He said "that Walsh University has always strived to be a good neighbor, and a strong community partner within the City of North Canton. We support the city in their plans to remove the island in response to the needs, and concerns of our residents. We also support any future streetscape beautification initiatives by the city that would attract new business to the City. Enhance our student experience and provide enjoyment, and recreation, for the residents in our community." And this is according to Walsh University President Richard Jusseaume. So, I think we're going to look to even better things to come. Because we've applied for grant funding with the state for our parks, and also for redeveloping our gateways to the city. So we're feeling very, very good about this. So I think we're going to have much, much better things to look forward to in that area. And then lastly, we have the, if you folks here for the cats and the deer, if you're able to, if you're able to stick around afterwards. Because I think this information is excellent. And I think we need more of it. My gosh, I think this is the thickest policy packet I've ever seen. Since I've been in public service. So there's got to be good stuff. Yeah, yeah, so thank you. That's all.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you. Mr. Engineer.

ENGINEER GRAHAM: Thank you, Mr. President. Just a couple quick things for you tonight. Our Price Park walking path Phase I, and also the Eastwood tennis court reconstruction. That's going to advertise for bids this Thursday, and next Thursday. And the scheduled to bid open for right here on Friday, September 29th at 11:00. So we hope to get that in this year. But the one thing we have to avoid, is the contractor removing like Price Park path, then the asphalt plant closes, and we don't have a path for all winter. So we'll sit down in the preconstruction meeting and be very clear, that either get it all in or wait till spring. Four months without a path isn't going to fly. So, we'll make that clear. Another project that we're going to get started on, on two weeks from today, on Monday, September 25th, is the Park Avenue sanitary sewer replacement. That's the 700 feet of sewer on Park, between Park and Holl. And that should take about three weeks to a month to get that buttoned up, and we'll get that in this year. That's all I have, Mr. President.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Alright, thank you. Director of Administrative Services?

ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR DEORIO: Thank you, thank you, Mr. President. Just first, I'd like say that I'm willing to attempt to do a concurrent consultation with the city council on September 18th. On your next Committee of the Whole meeting, to talk about recreation rental facilities. And at the same time, prior to that, do a meeting with the Park and Rec. Board of North Canton. So the idea is to try to get you all the information that I've put together in trying to improve upon our recreational rental process. My intent is to preserve and protect city owned facilities. Provide for the fair and orderly reservation and usage of those facilities. And to promote access for city residents, businesses and schools and community organizations. So, I want to lay it out to everybody all in the same day. And then start getting some feedback, and, you know, moving this thing along on what we're trying to accomplish. So you'll see that on your agenda next week. And there's a park board meeting next Monday at 4:00 on September 18th. Facebook, we've gotten our second international like. And as you recall, we had Europe covered at the last meeting we talked. And now we have South America. So we appreciate all the likes that we're getting from around the world. Still our #1 post for its reach has been the improvements to the St. Paul's parking. It has reached just shy of 8,500 people. And we think that as the St. Paul's community has shared that. It's been traveling around the world. And that's how we're getting some of these international ones. Then, we are trying to get the word out on the speed devices that we've just installed. I want to thank Chief Minock and his department for programing all of these devices. And they will have, all the devices do have a feature in which just raw data can be collected. Not individual data, not taking any pictures. Won't know who drove by at any time of the day. But much like those cords that you would put across the street, that records how many vehicles are traveling that road. And at what rate of speed in general that those vehicles are going. All of those devices will have the ability to hold that data for about 30 days. And it will be up to, if there's any concerns with speed for the police department to go out and retrieve that. It can simply be done by a drive by. They don't even have to get out of their car, and they pull up the data, and they can bring it back here and analyze it, and decide what they need to do. And that post was just made this morning on our Facebook page, and it's reached 3,700+ people in just a few short hours. So I think the word is getting out about that. I've also had the opportunity to draft in conjunction with the Facebook and the work that we're doing on the website development. To draft a social media policy. And I've had the opportunity to review dozens of social media policies of cities across the United States. I've also relied on information from the Center for Technology and Government, National League of Cities, County

Commissioners Association of Ohio, and the ePolicy Institute. The social media policy focuses around eight essential elements, employee access, social media account management, acceptable use, employee conduct, content, security, legal issues, and citizen conduct. And I'm pleased that the law director is taking now from me to bring more up, typically when you're doing this kind of research, you know, not all of it is the most current. And there's lots of case work as the law director has pointed to me that has happened in the last few years concerning this. And so any draft that we would put together, it needs to be looked at with, you know, great eye for detail in what is presently happening. So I'll be assisting him in any way that I can to help him continue with his revisions of that. And hopefully in the short time ahead, we'll be able to get something to council on that. That's all I have. Thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, Pat. Madam Clerk?

COUNCIL CLERK BAILEY: Just a couple items. This Wednesday, the Civil Service Commission will meet at 8:00 am to review the scores from the Police Lieutenant exam. I'm happy to say all three of them that had taken the exam have passed. So that's great. Also next Tuesday at 6:00 we will have our two exams for radio dispatch, and the Sergeant's promotional exam. So I will have those next Tuesday at the civic center at 6:00. And that's it.

11. Final Call for New Business:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Alright, thank you very much. Final call to Council for new business. The meeting schedule, I do want to address this next Monday, September 18th we are scheduled for a Committee of the Whole meeting. We're going to have some conflicts, is there anyone that's, is there anyone opposed to moving that to Tuesday, at 7:00pm? Rather than Monday, 7:00pm. If that's amendable to everyone I need a motion to and a second to do that.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Motion to move the meeting to Tuesday.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Second.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Clerk, can you please call the roll?

Roll call vote of 7 yes to move the Committee of the Whole meeting to Tuesday, September 19th at 7:00pm.

12. Next scheduled meetings for the month of August and September

Monday, September 18, 2017 - Committee of the Whole meeting

Monday, September 25, 2017 - Council meeting

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Alright, thank you very much. So now that sets us up for Tuesday, 7:00pm Committee of the Whole. Then Monday, September 25th will be the Council meeting. And that will round out the month. And not on the agenda but I can talk to it at this point, October 9th and the 23rd will be regular Council meetings. And then we'll schedule committee as appropriate.

13. Adjourn:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: So, that completes the agenda. I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

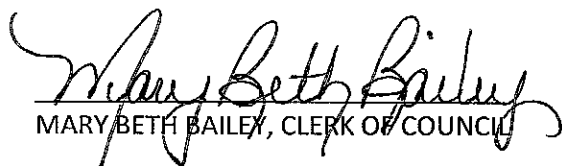
COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: So moved.

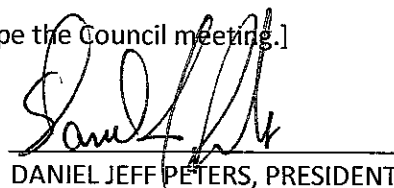
COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Second.

Roll call vote of 7 yes 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