

MINUTES – REGULAR SESSION

PORTSMOUTH CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Monday February 26, 2018
6:00 P.M.

The City Council of the City of Portsmouth, Ohio met in regular session on Monday February 26, 2018 at 6:00 p.m., at the Shawnee State University Center in the Sodexo Ballroom.

Mayor James D. Kalb called the meeting to order. A moment of silent prayer was observed followed by The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call showed the following members to be present:

Sean Dunne	1 st Ward
Jo Ann Aeh	2 nd Ward
Kevin E. Johnson	3 rd Ward
Jim Kalb	4 th Ward
Gene Meadows	5 th Ward
Thomas K. Lowe	6 th Ward

Also present was Solicitor John Haas, Auditor M. Trent Williams and City Clerk Diana Ratliff.

Council dispensed with the reading of the Journal for the Regular Session of February 12, 2018 on a motion by Councilman Johnson. The motion carried viva voce: **VOTE: ayes 6 – nays 0.**

There was no public hearing scheduled.

Councilwoman Aeh moved to recess into Executive Session to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal of a public employee or officials and to discuss immediate or pending litigation. She requested that City Solicitor Haas, Attorney Mark McCown and his associate Brian Cremeans and City Auditor Williams to join them in Executive Session.

Executive
Session

The role was called and the motion carried: **VOTE: 6 ayes – 0 nays, Council recessed into Executive Session at 6:05 p.m.**

Councilwoman Aeh moved that Council reconvene from Executive Session.

The roll was called and the motion carried. **VOTE: ayes 6 – nays 0, Council reconvened with all still in attendance at 7:28 p.m.**

Councilwoman Aeh moved to add an item to the agenda in place of the Appropriation Ordinance that was tabled. Item **7(J)** An Ordinance to make appropriation for the current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Portsmouth, Ohio beginning January 1, 2018 and ending December 31, 2018. The motion carried viva voce: **VOTE: ayes 6–nays 0.**

Item
Added

Councilwoman Aeh moved to add an item to the agenda. Item **7(K)** would be An Ordinance authorizing the appropriation and transfer of funds for the unappropriated balance of General Fund for a Settlement Agreement. The motion carried viva voce: **VOTE: ayes 5–nays 1 (K. E. Johnson).**

Item
Added

Councilwoman Aeh moved to add an item to the agenda as **7(L)** a Resolution appointing an Acting City Manager. The motion carried viva voce: **VOTE: ayes 5–nays 1 (K. E. Johnson).**

Item
Added

STATEMENTS OR REMARKS FROM CITIZENS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Gina Chabot – 3037 North Hill Road Portsmouth, OH – She commented on the Connex project for Mound Park. They were thankful that the city was in the position, had fiscal responsibility and been able to do development but they have asked that the item be tabled temporarily because Connex was in the process of obtaining an archaeological report that could affect the work going forward and the preparation of the agreement. Connex would like to have a legal review of the agreement before they sign and proceed with the proper steps.

LEGISLATION

The clerk gave a **third reading**, to an Ordinance authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement to contribute \$80,000 to Access Scioto County Public Transit in 2018.

Councilwoman Aeh moved that the Ordinance be amended to add “Acting” prior to City Manager. Mayor Kalb asked Solicitor Haas how they should proceed and he replied that he didn’t believe that it mattered. He said that it could reflect City Manager and once someone was appointed as Acting City Manager they could sign it. Councilwoman Aeh withdrew her motion to amend.

Councilman Johnson motioned that the Ordinance be passed.

Auditor Williams stated that it had not come up in the previous meetings where the funding would come from in the city's budget. Mayor Kalb stated that he believed it was to come from the General Fund balance, but maybe from the CIP budget. Auditor Williams said he didn't see it as a Capital Improvement and didn't see it as an appropriation if it were to be passed. He said if it were to pass it needed to have an appropriation and determine if it were to come from the General Fund.

Councilman Johnson moved to amend the Ordinance to reflect the funds come from the General Fund. Auditor Williams stated that it needed to be specified that it was being appropriated from the unappropriated balance of the General Fund. Mayor Kalb reiterated the actual wording for the Clerk's benefit as "Authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement to appropriate \$80,000 from the unappropriated General Fund balance to Access Scioto County Public Transit in 2018."

The role was called. VOTE: 6 ayes – 0 nays, the Ordinance was amended.

Councilman Johnson motioned that the Ordinance be passed.

Councilman Dunne stated that he believed that there were people in attendance to explain the need in more detail. Councilman Johnson requested Mr. Larry Mullins from Access Scioto County to come forward and Mr. Mullins requested that Commissioner Davis also be allowed to comment on Access Scioto County. City Council all agreed to the request. Councilman Dunne stated that he was interested in finding out about the location of the resources in funding, and searching additional grants.

Mr. Mullins had met with the County Commissioners to look for future long term funding for the transit system because they were already receiving State and Federal Grants funding. They were working on several different things that could not be divulged at this point but in the future they would be reaching out to the City of Portsmouth, New Boston, all the Townships, and all the Stakeholders in the public transit system to become part of the planning process and look for ways to fund the transit system going forward. This was all participated by the loss of Medicaid funding, but according to Jobs & Family Services the State may be rethinking the process but would not be done quickly. The biggest concern was for the people in the rural areas that would not be serviced (doctor visits, pick up prescriptions, etc.). The State was looking to contract with one company and pay one price to that company based on how many people were serviced which would mainly be the urban areas as it would be the cheapest for them to develop and not service the rural areas.

Commissioner Bryan Davis supported the efforts of Mr. Mullins and very much appreciate the consideration of City Council to help in this endeavor and they were looking to make sure they were covered and taken care of for 2018. The transit system had never been a budget issue for Portsmouth, or for the Scioto County because it had always been funded through grants and other manners. He understood that the City had its own challenges, but since the MCO (Managed Care Organization) tax, the County had realized a loss of \$2.1 million dollars per year which was 17% of their General Fund which was why the County had to make across the board cuts to keep their budget whole and had to find \$2.1 million. He said that ASC had a shortfall of \$120,000; he understood that the city was potentially giving \$80,000 and the County had decided to make up the difference of \$40,000 out of their General Fund and also giving them rent for \$1.00 to help them out. He said that his fellow Commissioners and several present tonight feel that ASC was a very important part of our community. ASC provides a very important service to the elderly, our veterans, SSU students and every day citizens who don't have transportation to and from work and if they're going to work they rely on ASC. He said that because of the importance of this service to the community they need to find a funding formula. He appreciates the offer and time from the city, and hopes that all involved could come together to find a funding formula to move this service forward for the citizens.

Councilman Johnson said through the City providing \$80,000 and the County providing \$40,000 the ASC shortfall had been met. He realized that it was just a band aid and there remains a problem for next year but City Council and the County Commissioners came together to do something good for everybody.

**Ord #13 – 2018
Access Scioto
County**

There were no questions or comments. **The role was called. VOTE: 6 ayes – 0 nays, the Ordinance was passed.**

The clerk gave a **third reading**, to an Ordinance authorizing the transfer of \$21,298 from General Fund No. 101 to Compensated Absences Fund No. 102.

**Ord #14 - 2018
Compensated
Absences**

Councilman Johnson motioned that the Ordinance be passed.

There were no further questions or comments. **The role was called. VOTE: 6 ayes – 0 nays, the Ordinance was passed.**

The clerk gave a **third reading**, to an Ordinance authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Portsmouth Connex for Mound Park.

Item
Tabled

Councilman Johnson motioned that the Ordinance be tabled.

There were no further questions or comments. **The role was called. VOTE: 6 ayes – 0 nays, the Ordinance was Tabled.**

The clerk gave a **second reading**, to an Ordinance authorizing the City Manager to enter into a twenty-five (25) year easement agreement with the State of Ohio of Real-Estate and Planning, representing Shawnee State University.

Councilman Johnson motioned that this constitute a second reading.

There were no further questions or comments. **The role was called. VOTE: 5 ayes – 0 nays 1 abstain (S. Dunne), a second reading was declared.**

The clerk gave a **second reading**, to an Ordinance authorizing the vacation of the alley between 3rd St. and Farney Ave. as requested by Steve Falls and Mike Stapleton on behalf of Sciotoville Christian Church.

Councilman Johnson motioned that this constitute a second reading.

Mayor Kalb stated that the legal description that they had been waiting on had been distributed Clerk Ratliff.

There were no further questions or comments. **The role was called. VOTE: 6 ayes – 0 nays, a second reading was declared.**

The clerk gave a **second reading**, to an Ordinance authorizing the transfer of \$21,739.00 from the City of Portsmouth General Fund No. 101 to Municipal Court Subsidy Fund No. 202.

Councilman Johnson motioned that this constitute a second reading.

There were no further questions or comments. **The role was called. VOTE: 6 ayes – 0 nays, a second reading was declared.**

The clerk gave a **first reading**, to an Ordinance authorizing the City Manager of the City of Portsmouth, Ohio to advertise for bids and to enter into contracts with the lowest and/or best bidder for required supplies, materials and services for 2018 in accordance with Ohio Revised Code section 735.05.

Councilman Johnson motioned to suspend the three reading rule.

The role was called. VOTE: 6 ayes – 0 nays, the rule was suspended.

Ord #15 – 2018
Advertise for
bids and enter
into contracts

Councilman Johnson motioned that the Ordinance be passed.

There were no further questions or comments. **The role was called. VOTE: 6 ayes – 0 nays, the Ordinance was passed.**

The clerk gave a **first reading**, to an Ordinance authorizing the appropriation and payment from the unencumbered balance of Capital Improvement Fund No. 301 for the paving of city streets in 2017. Pursuant to Council Rule 5, this legislation is requested to be passed as an emergency in accordance with Section 10 of the Charter for the City of Portsmouth in order to facilitate administration, daily operation and avoid practical and legal entanglements.

Councilman Johnson motioned to suspend the three reading rule.

The role was called. VOTE: 6 ayes – 0 nays, the rule was suspended.

Councilman Johnson motioned that the Ordinance be passed.

Auditor Williams stated that again the wording “appropriation of” was without the dollar amount. Solicitor Haas stated that the amount of \$449,218.60 was listed inside the body of the ordinance, Auditor Williams said that was correct but it wasn’t listed in Section I which was the meat part of the ordinance and he believed that it should be amended to show that number. He said that only \$250,000 was carried over but he would wipe out that amount and list the full amount if Council passed the Ordinance.

Councilwoman Aeh moved to amend the Ordinance in the Preamble and in Section I authorizing the appropriation and payment of \$449,218.60.

The role was called. VOTE: 6 ayes – 0 nays, the Ordinance was amended.

**Ord #16 – 2018
Paving projects
from 2017**

There were no further questions or comments. **The role was called. VOTE: 6 ayes – 0 nays, the Ordinance was passed.**

The clerk gave a **first reading**, to a Resolution authorizing the City Manager on behalf of the City of Portsmouth to prepare and submit an application to participate in the APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION GRANT PROGRAM and to execute contracts as required.

**Res #04 – 2018
Appalachian
Regional
Commission
Grant Program
Application**

Councilman Johnson motioned that the Resolution be adopted.

There were no further questions or comments. **The role was called. VOTE: 6 ayes – 0 nays, the Resolution was adopted.**

The clerk gave a **first reading**, to an Ordinance to make appropriation for the current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Portsmouth, Ohio beginning January 1, 2018 and ending December 31, 2018, as provided for in Section 49 of the Charter of the City of Portsmouth, Ohio.

Councilman Johnson motioned to suspend the three reading rule.

The role was called. VOTE: 6 ayes – 0 nays, the rule was suspended.

**Ord #17 - 2018
2018 Operating
Budget**

Councilman Johnson motioned that the Ordinance be passed.

There were no further questions or comments. **The role was called. VOTE: 6 ayes – 0 nays, the Ordinance was passed.**

The clerk gave a **first reading**, to an Ordinance authorizing the appropriation and transfer of funds in the amount \$80,000 (Eighty Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents) from the unappropriated balance of General Fund No. 101 for the payment of a Settlement Agreement and Full and Final Release between the City of Portsmouth, Ohio (“Employer”) and Derek K. Allen (“Employee”). Pursuant to Council Rule 5, this legislation is requested to be passed as an emergency in accordance with Section 12 of the Charter for the City of Portsmouth in order to facilitate administration, daily operation and avoid practical and legal entanglements.

There was some confusion on the wording of the Ordinance with regard to Section 10 and Section 12. (It was found later that the Clerk had not been given the correct Ordinance which Council had reviewed. It was decided to use the Ordinance that Attorney McCown had prepared which stated Section 12)

Councilman Meadows motioned to suspend the three reading rule.

The role was called. VOTE: 5 ayes – 1 nays (K. E. Johnson), the rule was suspended.

**Ord #18 – 2018
Settlement
Agreement
with Derek K.
Allen**

Councilman Meadows motioned that the Ordinance be passed.

There were no further questions or comments. **The role was called. VOTE: 5 ayes – 1 nays (K. E. Johnson), the Ordinance was passed.**

Mayor Kalb asked the City Clerk to read for the record the joint statement which was agreed upon by both parties.

“The City Council and the City Manager have been attempting to address concerns raised by employees and citizens of the City Of Portsmouth. The Council has a duty to take any and all allegations seriously and investigate the same.

After further inquiry, the City Council has determined that the allegations of physical violence were not accurate.

During the process, it became clear that the relationship between the Council and City Manager deteriorated to the point where continued employment would be untenable. The Council and the City Manager have determined that it is in the best interest of the City to move forward, and have entered into an agreement resolving their differences.

Effective immediately, Derek Allen has tendered his resignation as City Manager. City Council has agreed to pay a severance package, as is commonplace when executive leadership departs.

The Council wishes Derek Allen well in his future endeavors, and acknowledges the advances of the City during his tenure. Likewise, Mr. Allen expresses his gratitude to the Council and the City of Portsmouth, and wishes it well. Contrary to overstated social media reports, Mr. Allen believes the dispute should not serve as a basis for councilmanic recall.”

The letter was signed by Derek Allen and all Councilmembers with the exception of Councilman Kevin E. Johnson.

Councilwoman Aeh moved that the full settlement agreement and the final release be made part of the Ordinance.

The role was called. VOTE: 5 ayes – 1 nays (K.E. Johnson), the settlement agreement and the final release were made part of the Ordinance.

The clerk gave a **first reading**, to a Resolution appointing Sam Sutherland as Acting City Manager of the City of Portsmouth, Ohio, effective February 27, 2018 at the rate of pay of \$105,000 per year.

**Res #05 – 2018
Acting City
Manager Sam
Sutherland**

Councilman Johnson motioned that the Resolution be adopted.

There were no further questions or comments. **The role was called. VOTE: 6 ayes – 0 nays, the Resolution was adopted.**

STATEMENTS OR REMARKS FROM CITIZENS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Zack Sims – 1716 5th Street Portsmouth, OH – He thanked Councilman Kevin E. Johnson for being a man of integrity and he looked forward to learning more about Councilman Dunne as he didn’t know him very well. He stated that it was no secret that he had taken petitions out to recall the 4th Ward Councilman and it wasn’t because of Derek Allen but the reason was a lack of integrity. He said leadership in any capacity within the City, within business or within your household was framed on trust and integrity and he believed that he had seen a lack of it and despite the expense or what happens going forward he will continue with the recall. He thought that this Council had proven that as they move forward they could at a whim of their own desire even if it broke the law, they could undo it. This Council will choose their own path but not the path of the citizen’s desire. He offered to those present and those on social media to sign the petition that his wife was circulating. His phone number was: 740-285-1895. He had no personal means to gain and no personal beef with anyone on Council but he had seen the city that he loved threatened by a lack of integrity.

Vina Colley – P.O. Box 136 Portsmouth, OH – She thanked Councilman Dunne for being a liaison between the community groups and the A-Plant and hoping that he would give a report to the community and Council. She was disappointed in the meeting at Piketon because they never invited anyone from the community, it was all Commissioners, Councilmembers and people in Government policy and they never got to hear from the concerned citizens.

Randy Rice – 2514 Scioto Trail Portsmouth, OH – He was a retired parts guy and said that he had watched what had been taking place since December and explained to Council that this wasn’t how you fire people, because there were procedures and protocols in place: 1. Standard of Conduct, they’re given a mission statement when hired. 2. In the first year, once a quarter there was a review; the second year it was 6 months and then after that it would be yearly. He said the reasoning behind this was to keep the employee on course but he hadn’t seen any of that and he realized that he was relying on the media but hoped that Council would implement an H.R. unit where there were procedures and advice on how to handle situations to avoid conflict. For example if you present somebody with a written warning, they would initial that they had seen the document but not admit guilt. He felt bad for everybody involved because it could have been cut and dried.

Sharon Bender – 1666 Highland Avenue Portsmouth, OH – She believed that Council was self-satisfied but wondered if there would be a search for a City Manager and how Council expected to get a qualified, decent person to come to Portsmouth. The city had recalled two Mayors, fired a City Manager and there had been

several Councilmembers recalled in the past 15 years. We had somebody that came here and tried to do things and Council picked and picked at him and now he was gone. She thought it was a tragedy and a shame and should never have happened. She was very disappointed.

Cinnamon Wellington – 522 2nd Street Portsmouth, OH – She was the owner of the Happy Pot in which she and her husband had invested all of their money because they felt they could make a difference in the community. They could have franchised and went to Gallipolis or Athens but they believe in their community and chose to stay local to have a safe place for a child to grow up. She wasn't saying that she believed in Mr. Allen and what Council did was wrong but what scared her was the manner in which it was done which seemed unfair, unjust and kind of corrupt. She was scared for her future, their investment and scared for her child to grow up in an area where she doesn't believe anyone had been heard and there were no rules.

Matthew Seifert – 613 3rd Street Portsmouth, OH – He heard that we were paying Mr. Allen \$15,000 to make sure that he doesn't sue us for defamation which was a concern to him because he wouldn't want the Council to be liable for potential defamation which would be an issue. He thanked Derek Allen for his service and the millions of dollars he saved the community. He fully expected his fellow citizens to have a lot of discontent that they would share with this Council tonight, so he won't beat a dead horse. He spoke on behalf of Friends of Portsmouth and offered a positive vision for the future of this community. He said that our future was bright, but things won't be the way they used to be but they will be different and probably better. He said he saw a future where Scioto County was strong and vibrant and Portsmouth would be the jewel of that shining crown. Portsmouth had the potential to become a destination and an interesting local experience. He said 2nd Street, Chillicothe Street and Gallia Street would have store fronts full of new and interesting buildings. He said Friends of Portsmouth was not a political group but when local government matters to the area, they would make their presence known. He stated that they would be hosting a forum at 6:00 p.m. for the State Representative Candidates running for the open seat in District 90. He said they would also organize a community clean up after the flood waters subside. He warned Council that the days of being able to do whatever they wanted without anyone paying attention were over because Council had demonstrated that they had no respect for the will of the people and demonstrated there was no respect for the rule of law. He said that this action would lead to Council being stopped at every turn by concerned citizen's intent on making sure they play by the rules.

Police Chief Rob Ware – 728 2nd Street Portsmouth, OH – He said the last 9-10 days have been interesting for the City and the Flood Defense efforts and he wanted everybody to take notice of the hard work of the Policemen, Firemen, Service Workers, National Guards and volunteers that helped put up a floodwall and now the waters have receded they would need to be taken down. The employees worked around the clock throughout the week and he and the city would be remiss if they didn't take the opportunity to thank each one of those men and women when you pass them on the street.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS AND REPORTS:

City Clerk's Report – City Clerk Ratliff reported the following:

1. She received via email on February 13, 2017 from the Auditor's office, the following summary statements of the Combined MTD/YTD reports for the period ending January 31, 2018: Expense, Revenue and Fund.
2. She received the legal description for the Sciotoville Church of Christ and have distributed them to Council.

The City Clerk's report was received, filed and made part of the record, on a motion by Councilman Kevin E. Johnson. The motion carried viva voce: **VOTE: 6 ayes – 0 nays.**

City Manager's Report – No report.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Kalb reported the following:

1. Mayor Kalb read from a prepared statement as follows:

“Tonight our Council meeting is once again full of concerned citizens as it has been for the last couple of months. Most of you are here to show your support for an employee that your elected Council members hired. Tonight there was an agreement signed between former City Manager Allen and City Council to part ways. I'm sure that there are a lot of questions that you all would like answered. Some of the more important ones that you should ask are:

- Why couldn't this agreement have been reached in mediation?
- Why was there never a public hearing scheduled? (Remember I told many of you that there would never be a public hearing)
- Why would the City Solicitor choose to represent a City Employee rather than the elected legislative body?
- Why did the former City Manager change his mind about “clearing his name as his #1 priority”, as he publicly stated in a meeting at the high school?
- Why would you believe the propaganda of an internet forum written by people that you probably don't know and probably a lot of them don't even live in the city, over people you have known for years and elected to represent you?
- Why did many of you feel as if you know the former City Manager better than the people who hired him and worked with him on a daily basis?

These were a few of the questions that you should have been asking, instead of how do we get even with City Council. I've served the citizens of Portsmouth for nearly twenty years. Most of you have known me for at least that long and most probably longer. Ask yourself or your friends if they have every known Jim Kalb to lie. Ask if Jim Kalb has ever cheated anyone. It does hurt to look out there and see so many people that I considered friends turned against me over this. Not one of you, besides Terry Ockerman, ever contacted me and asked about what was going on, you just took it on yourself that you had all of the information. The one person who has always sided and stood with me through the good times and the bad, has always been my wife Allison. She's put up with twenty years of me spending time trying to improve our city, twenty years that could have been spent with my family. Allison has always supported me, defended me, consoled me and loved me. So tonight, right here and right now, this is for you Allison – I Quit!"

Vice President Johnson took over the meeting and moved onto the Solicitor's report.

City Solicitor – Solicitor Haas reported the following:

1. He said earlier there was a question asked about why he chose to represent the City Manager over City Council. He thought the answer to that was clear when City Council took actions via email, outside without notice of an open meeting and then conducted themselves in violation of the City Charter without seeking legal advice prior to their actions. That was why he represented the City Manager and filed suit on his behalf as City Solicitor.
2. He had questions for Commissioner Davis regarding why the County had not paid the \$136,000 in sewer fees that the County had collected and not paid to the city. If they had, our deficit balance in that fund would be under \$1,000,000.

The Solicitor's report was received, filed and made part of the record, on a motion by Councilwoman Aeh. The motion carried viva voce: **VOTE: 5 ayes – 0 nays.**

Auditor Williams – Auditor Williams reported the following:

1. He distributed the Auditor's Financial report as follows:
January's General Fund Income Tax Revenue \$1,094,410 which was -\$256,790 less than the previous year. The total tax revenue collected was \$1,243,700, which was less by -\$292,183.
Major Fund Balances – General Fund \$4,159,781, Streets \$399,146, Water \$675,103, Sewer - \$1,091,445, Sanitation \$624,346 and Insurance \$2,249,058.
2. He updated Council on the Municipal Income Tax Coalition litigation against House Bill 49. A temporary injunction was granted and the case was heard this past week and ruled in favor of the State, however because the response was only on the preliminary injunction it allowed for the case to continue through the appeals process. The attorneys have filed an appeal and a stay of the current law but the language had not been adopted by various cities at this time. The new language should be available within the next couple of weeks based on the outcome of the appeal.

The Auditor's report was received, filed and made part of the record, on a motion by Councilwoman Aeh. The motion carried viva voce: **VOTE: 5 ayes – 0 nays.**

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS FROM CITY COUNCIL

1st Ward – Councilman Sean Dunne reported the following:

1. He stated that it had been an interesting two months. He said when he first started he was hoping that a process could go forward to avoid vindictiveness but that's very difficult because it was a very important issue for our city. This was a time he hoped that members of the community would stay involved in discussions. He said we have a future to think about in the city which involved a variety of different sectors, not just business, but community and politics. He believed that it was a time where contributions from different viewpoints in our city should be involved in the future of moving Portsmouth forward. He added that many people had indicated their interest in helping and he had spent roughly three times as much time in this part time job in which he donated his salary than he does his full time job but was happy to do so.
2. He had been trying to make time to meet with people in the First Ward as well as other wards and he would continue that work. He said that two weeks ago they met at Penn Station and thanked Josh Irwin. He added that they had about a two hour talk about a Dog Park, it was a great conversation and the organization of ideas would be motivation to move the city forward.
3. He had planned to meet tomorrow, but there was a scheduling conflict with the Candidates Forum. He would still like to meet around 7:30 p.m. at Port City Pub.
4. He received a selection of proposed designs for a Skate Park from a company out of California. The designs were incredible and he had received a list of possible in-kind donations that could help reduce the cost and increase the amount of matching funds that we could provide for future grant opportunities.
5. He along with several County Commissioners as well as other local politicians attended the A-Plant meeting featuring Senator Rob Portman and Congressman Wenstrup regarding the future of the plant. He said that this was an incredibly important issue and he and Councilman Johnson would be going again to the plant on Wednesday and will keep Council and the public updated.

6. He met with Community Development Director Tracy Shearer and SSU Students at the Community Pool and he thanked Drew Carter for meeting with them. They discussed some of the updates that need to be done at McKinley Pool which were long overdue.
7. He met with the former City Manager and a member of the Shawnee State University's office of Institutional effectiveness to discuss bringing Tableau Software into the city. He would continue to move forward with the request because it would increase the ability to use data to provide a clearer presentation of the activities within the departments and also help with decision making of the variety of tasks throughout our city.
8. He thanked Attorney Mark McCown and his firm.
9. He also thanked those that remained calm throughout the rise of the Ohio and Scioto rivers and he reiterated the Police Chief's comments. He also stated that his security cameras were motion detected and throughout the night their lights on top of their trucks from the variety of departments that came together to help erect the floodwall gates kept setting off his motion detector, but it was much appreciated. He explained that at the time the floodwall was built, the city was much larger and had a much larger workforce, but moving forward he would like all to keep in mind that we should be thinking about the ways we could obtain the materials that could quicken the process of putting up the floodwall gates. He believed it to be something that could be appealed to the State and National Government for assistance.
10. He thanked members of City Council for helping to speak to a Political Science Class at Shawnee State University and talk about issues relating to local government. He wanted to improve the relationship and interactions between City Government and Shawnee State University including the students.
11. He thanked members of Council for their generous donations to the Portsmouth Area Arts Council #anythingforasong campaign.
12. He thanked Shawnee State for hosting the Council meeting and for all of those that came out.

2nd Ward – Councilwoman Aeh reported the following:

1. She thanked the employees that worked on the floodgates.

3rd Ward – Councilman Kevin E. Johnson reported the following:

1. He said he was speechless and ask everyone if they had ever had an ordinary day that became extraordinary.
2. He thanked Shawnee State for allowing Council to have their meetings at the University.
3. He thanked all that were helped during the flooding that we've had, there were too many people to mention.
4. He thanked all of the citizens for being present and that sometimes situations look dark, sometimes they look grey, but this city will move forward. He added that it wasn't a time to drop our heads but a time to press on and thanked those that spoke and those that have been involved. He concluded by saying that our best days were not behind us but they were ahead of us and he asked the citizens to stay positive and work together.

4th Ward – Vacant

5th Ward – Councilman Meadows reported the following:

1. He thanked the City Workers.

6th Ward – Councilman Lowe reported the following:

1. He thanked Police Chief Ware and his crew for all of the work they have done as well as the Fire Department, National Guard and everyone that took part in the flood relief

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:51 p.m. on a motion by Councilwoman Aeh.

City Clerk

Mayor