

MINUTES – REGULAR SESSION

PORTSMOUTH CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday April 22, 2019

6:00 p.m.

The City Council of the City of Portsmouth, Ohio met in regular session on Monday April 22, 2019 at 6:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building.

Acting Mayor Johnson 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
Jerrold Albrecht	4 th Ward
Gene Meadows	5 th Ward
Thomas K. Lowe	6 th Ward

Also present was City Manager Sam Sutherland, 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 April 8, 2019 on a motion by Councilwoman Aeh. The motion carried viva voce: **VOTE: 6 ayes –0 nays.**

There was no Public Hearing.

Councilwoman Aeh motioned to add to the agenda as item (j) a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a partnership agreement with Scioto County for 2019 Community Housing Impact and Preservation (CHIP) Program. **The roll was called: VOTE: 6 ayes –0 nays, the item was added.**

**Item added to
Agenda**

STATEMENTS OR REMARKS FROM CITIZENS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Charles Leaverton – 113 Madison, Portsmouth, OH – He spoke with regard to the Multi-Use Path and opposed changing Front Street to a one-way street and felt that Front Street was a multi-use path already and there was no need for it to be a one-way street. He gave three (3) examples of why Front Street shouldn't be one-way. (1) He stated that it was tourist season right now for all of the schools in the State of Ohio and out of state. Elementary students visit the murals and so far this year there had been three (3) tours. The buses start on the east end of Front Street and continue west and then turn around on Madison and head east on Front Street so each one of the students got the opportunity to see the murals more closely. (2) He said that Emergency vehicles were often call to the retirement community and regular vehicles would not be able to go around those Emergency vehicles safely and he added that maintenance vehicles also need access. (3) Motorcycle Clubs come from all over America to take pictures in front of the Motorcycle Club mural as it depicts the first ever motorcycle club. He also said that there were plants along the floodwall.

Linda Switzer – 319 Front Street, Portsmouth, OH – She said that people come to look at her cabin from all over the world and she had been on a number of committees which had some stupid ideas, and one of them was to make Front Street a toll road so that they could charge to view the murals. There was another idea of wanting to put a sidewalk up against the floodwall, but again not a good idea because if you're looking at the murals you need to stand away from them to view them. She also added that another bad idea was closing Third Street because Shawnee State said they were going to build on there and that never happened. All the traffic will be diverted to Fourth Street which would put the kids in danger. She also stated that according to ODOT the 4th and Gay Street intersection had more traffic accidents than any other intersection. She hardly notices any bicycles or runners on Front Street and truly believed that Council would be making a mistake if this passed.

LEGISLATION

The clerk gave a **second reading**, to an Ordinance amending Section 1319.03 - Sanitation of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Portsmouth, Ohio.

Councilwoman Aeh moved this constitute a second reading.

There were no 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 to authorize extending the terms of a lease agreement between Shawnee State University and the City of Portsmouth regarding the use of Branch Rickey Park for an additional two-year term through June 30, 2021.

Councilwoman Aeh moved this constitute a second reading.

Councilman Dunne stated that he had gone to Branch Rickey Field after the last meeting to check out the lighting and he found out that there were a few other things that had been done and the plan they had for the future. 1) He said that they advised him that the field needed secured, that people were getting in and staying overnight. 2) They were also having an issue with people using drugs there and pointed out certain fences that could be higher. 3) The concession stand appeared like someone had taken bolt cutters to the pad lock. 4) The long term issue was the dugouts would need to be moved further out because they were under the stands and not in good condition. Councilman Lowe suggested cleaning the park up so that there wasn't a negative problem with the drugs before anything else was done. Mr. Dunne replied that they have surveillance cameras at Spartan stadium and he wasn't sure of the technological set up with getting internet to the field, but maybe if there were cameras up at Branch Rickey that would allow us to figure out how people were getting into the stadium. Also if the cameras were there it may act as a deterrent. Acting Mayor Johnson said the Clerk had looked some things up for him and there had been monies appropriated over the last several years around \$100,000 and he wanted to know if it was spent at Branch Rickey. Manager Sutherland said as far as he could tell some of it had been but he's still looking into it, Auditor Williams stated that it was about half, Mr. Johnson replied that the city should have some money to spend down there since it wasn't all spent. There is a college baseball team and we have the perfect opportunity to bring people in from out of town and we need to get behind them. Mr. Lowe said that the city needed to start patrolling it more. Mr. Johnson said that he felt like Shawnee State University would be willing to help clean it up because we've been a good neighbor to them with the rental terms. Mr. Dunne said that the Carpenter's Union was helping to improve the scoreboard and he believed that it would be completed this summer, also there was work done on the press box, Auditor Williams stated that it was in wonderful shape. Mr. Dunne said there was a person eager to bring a Minor League team to Portsmouth. Councilman Albrecht asked if Shawnee State's Security team be able to patrol that area to help out. Mr. Dunne said that if cameras were put in place, it could be part Shawnee's system and the Police system where the images were sent to Police Dispatch as well as Shawnee's security. Councilman Meadows said that if we partner with Shawnee, he believed they should have a good broadband system and they may possibly be able to run theirs into Branch Rickey and that this should be the number one priority because until we stop what was going on there, there's no point in fixing it up because it would be torn up the next day.

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 approving the 2019 Capital Improvement Program budget and appropriating funds for same from Capital Improvements Fund No. 301 for listed items only

Councilwoman Aeh moved this constitute a second reading.

Manager Sutherland requested that the Ordinance be passed so that the city could start working on some of the projects. Acting Mayor Johnson said he wasn't in favor of waiving this too often but he didn't see a massive outpouring of folks to discuss the budget.

Councilwoman Aeh withdrew her motion and moved to suspend the three reading as requested.

The role was called. VOTE: 5 ayes– 1 nays (G. Meadows), the rule was suspended.

Councilwoman Aeh motioned that the Ordinance be passed.

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

The clerk gave a **second reading**, to an Ordinance approving the 2019 Enterprise Funds Capital Budget, designating and appropriating \$850,000 in Waterworks Revenue C Fund No. 606; designating and appropriating \$117,000 in Sewer System Revenue B Fund No. 622; and designating and appropriating \$77,000 in Sewer System Revenue C Fund No. 623 for listed items only.

Councilwoman Aeh motioned to suspend the three reading as requested.

The role was called. VOTE: 5 ayes– 1 nays (G. Meadows), the rule was suspended.

Councilwoman Aeh motioned that the Ordinance be passed.

Ord.#22-2019
2019 Capital
Improvement
Budget

Ord.#23-2019
2019
Enterprise
Capital
Improvement
Budget

There were no 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 acceptance into General Fund No. 101.4690 and appropriation to Fire Department Communication Equipment Maintenance Line Item No. 101.223.5267 of a check in the amount of \$20,000.00 the Portsmouth Fire Department received from the Ohio Department of Commerce Division of State Fire.

Councilwoman Aeh stated that this was \$20,000 and was not a negative to the community and it would maintain firemen equipment and she motioned to suspend the three reading as requested.

The role was called. VOTE: 5 ayes– 1 nays (G. Meadows), the rule was suspended.

Councilwoman Aeh motioned that the Ordinance be passed.

Councilman Meadows stated that it could be spent in June as well as it could be spent now. He wasn't opposed to passing the ordinance but again reiterated that the waiving of the three reading rule should be the exception and that Council was too liberal with it. Councilwoman Aeh said that Council was also here to be efficient and to let a \$20,000 check sit in the Auditor's office for the next 6 weeks was not being efficient and Council would not be causing any problems for the public by spending that \$20,000 before 6 weeks was up. Mr. Meadows stated that we should entertain a motion prior to August to amend the Charter and stop requiring the three readings. Mrs. Aeh stated that the Charter allowed Council to suspend the rule even if it wasn't an emergency. Mr. Meadows said that should be the exception and Mrs. Aeh replied "no" that there was an exception if it was just bookkeeping stuff but that Council still had the authority to suspend the rule. She added that if it affected the public, such as vacating alleys, changing streets to one-way, etc. those all should have to have three readings but bookkeeping stuff would be in the interest of good management. Councilman Lowe said that if the check is here then we need to accept it. Mr. Meadows said that everything we do affects the public and he disagreed with Mrs. Aeh. Mrs. Aeh said that "we would agree to disagree on that" as she believed that it was in the interest of being efficient. Auditor Williams said that for the record, it's probably not even a check, but an automatic deposit, but could not be spent until Council gave the authority. Councilman Albrecht said that if this would save someone's life such as a firefighter, he believed that it should be done as quickly as possible and the public would want us to do that.

Ord.#24-2019
Appropriating
grant for Fire
Department
equipment

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 acceptance of grant funds in the amount of \$43,098.00 from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Natureworks Grant program for Spock Memorial Dog Park, establishing a dedicated account for the grant and authorizing appropriation of such funding as received.

Councilwoman Aeh moved this constitute a first reading.

Councilman Dunne stated that both grants regarding the Dog Park were the collaborative work effort of Tracy Shearer the Community Development Director and members of the community that provided information for the grant.

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

The clerk gave a **first reading**, to an Ordinance authorizing the acceptance of grant funds from the Scioto Foundation Grant program in the amount of \$7,665.00 for Spock Memorial Dog Park, establishing a dedicated account for the grant and authorizing appropriation of such funding as received.

Councilwoman Aeh moved this constitute a first reading.

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

The clerk gave a **first reading**, to an Ordinance authorizing the acceptance of grant funds from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Clean Ohio Trails Fund program in the amount of \$187,738.00 for the Multi Use Path along Front Street, establishing a dedicated account for the grant and authorizing appropriation of such funding as received.

Councilwoman Aeh moved this constitute a first reading.

Councilman Lowe asked Manager Sutherland what would happen to the grant money if Council doesn't pass the ordinance, he replied that the funds were reimbursable, so the City had to appropriate its funds and as it was spent the city would be reimbursed, but if it doesn't pass then nothing happens but the loss of the reimbursable funds.

Councilman Dunne stated there had been a public meeting regarding this issue and pointed out some factors: A) Health Indicators for our area were ranked near the bottom in the State of Ohio and needs to be improved. There were currently a series of initiatives helping people to live healthier life styles which would include outdoor activity. He said that he did see the STEM Academy cycling today around 5:00 p.m. along the street. He believed that with the path, people will be able to see more cyclist because there were people that were hesitant to have their kids riding bikes on the streets. He said looking at the bigger picture, the use of cities had greatly transform, whereas previously there were heavy amounts of manufacturing within city limits but over the past 50 years that had moved outside of city limits, and now we're seeing more residential living within the city and changing spaces within a city. He said if other cities were attracting residents by installing multi-use paths, he would encourage Portsmouth to do the same. He would like the city to start attracting people from the surrounding region, such as people from Wheelersburg to move to Portsmouth. He believed a path like this could help this be accomplished. B) He questioned whether the one-way aspects of this stopped people from traveling from Athens to look at the murals, he doesn't know how that would ever be proven and doesn't believe that a one-way street would have that much impact. The murals are great and he had seen Robert Dafford's work in other cities and ours is much better. C) He believed that it improved the safety of cycling, encourages outdoor activities and downtown living. Those were reasons he respectfully disagrees with opposing this and as far as what we would lose, we would lose \$800,000 of grant money. He supports the path and believes that it will be an improvement to our area.

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

The clerk gave a **first reading**, to an Ordinance authorizing the acceptance of grant funds from the Ohio Department of Transportation, Transportation Alternative Program in the amount of \$622,725.00 for the Multi Use Path along Front Street, establishing a dedicated account for the grant and authorizing appropriation of such funding as received.

Councilwoman Aeh moved this constitute a first reading.

Councilman Lowe stated that the reason this was getting the full three readings was because there were people that had concerns and were opposed to it. Acting Mayor Johnson said when Connex came to the City a few years ago, he had spoken to people that lived and worked in the downtown area and he wasn't in support of the path and was still not crazy about it, but if we don't accept it then the city doesn't get the grant. Mr. Lowe asked if there could be changes made to the proposed route but this affected the people who live there. He's not against the bike path but against what it's doing to the residents and the community. He realized that there were pros and cons but tonight he's heard more opposition than anything else. Councilman Dunne said that he believed that if you were designing a city from scratch "would you do it this way, no" and he believed everyone would agree to that, but we're converting city space and it won't just be Front Street, there will hopefully be more bike paths in other parts of the city. He firmly believes that we have to actively encourage outdoor activities. The City is putting in a Skate Park over on 4th Street and believed that there will be some people who have issues with that location. There's always going to be some people who would prefer it to be done differently or not done at all. He felt that this city is at a level of emergency with physical activity and he wants to encourage kids and families to go outdoors and should be a high priority. Mr. Lowe said that these people have invested in property and sees a problem with changing things and running over their way of life.

Councilwoman Aeh agreed both ways and stated that Ms. Switzer had brought up 3rd Street and she had objected to the vacation of 3rd Street because of what it was going to do to the people where she lived. She said that they have been pushed to travel on 4th Street where the traffic is horrendous, and children playing. During school hours, if you travel to Gallia Street, you cannot get through and if you go to 9th Street, you take a chance on getting hit by a softball. Her neighbors are almost forced to go to 12th Street to get back to 2nd Street. She added that 3rd Street definitely had not worked out and all that was accomplished was to make safe passage for young adults to text and walk across the street. She found this to be a dilemma because she sees the good points, but she sees what has happened on 3rd Street. Councilman Meadows said that he and Councilman Johnson were both on Council when 3rd Street closed and he accepted part of the blame for that and had learned a lesson from it. He said the next time that Shawnee comes and wants a road and says they're going to build a building there, they should be given a time limit and if they don't do it within a certain time, it would revert back to the city.

Mrs. Aeh said she was in favor of repealing the vacation of 3rd Street and Mr. Meadows agreed with her. Mr. Meadows said that he understood Councilman Dunne’s point about the health standard for the county. However, he dealt every day with a lot of unhealthy people that would fall into that standard and doesn’t believe that they would come to Front Street and get on a bicycle or walk to see the murals. He admired Councilman Dunne’s goals for health standard and it should be all of ours, but the sector of the community that we need to reach, would not be down there on the bike path and he believed that the people using the multi-use path were already using it somewhere else.

Acting Mayor Johnson said that this was just one portion of what the overall picture would look like as it will eventually be connecting with Mound Park and all around. He asked Manager Sutherland if the issues with the Vastine Warehouse had been addressed, Mr. Sutherland said that as far as he know “yes” they had been addressed and the solution was to accommodate them with a variance so that they could off-load their trucks and for the boaters.

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

The clerk gave a **first reading**, to a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a partnership agreement with Scioto County for 2019 Community Housing Impact and Preservation (CHIP) Program.

Councilwoman Aeh moved that the Resolution be adopted.

Councilman Lowe asked how much money this was and Manager Sutherland said he wasn’t sure of the total amounts, but he thought it was to clear up some bookkeeping issues the County’s had with the CHIP program.

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

Scott Robinson – 360 County Road #105, Kitts Hill, OH – He said that he wasn’t used to dealing with city issues, but he bought property on Pershing Avenue and was wanting to build a house or put a modular home on the property. He said the problem he’s having right now was getting an address, he’s been to the City Engineers office and spoke with Mike and he hated to say this but felt he was getting the runaround. He said that the property behind him was listed as agricultural and his was listed as residential and he hoped that it could be changed. He’s never lived in the city before and he realized there were ordinances and certain laws of what he could and could not do, but he wanted to figure out what he needed to do to get the ball rolling and stay within the legal limits.

Sharon Bender – 1666 Highland Avenue, Portsmouth, OH – She passed around a brochure of an event that is being hosted from May 9th through May 11th at the old PHS Gym on Waller Street. It showcases Portsmouth memorabilia and it is a free event. She believed that Dave Fannin who wrote a book based on the history of the Portsmouth Fire Department may have a few of his books there to sell as well as Linda Donaldson may have some things for sale.

Jeff Bauer – 840 Gallia Street, Apt. 401, Portsmouth, OH – He introduced himself as the interim President for Shawnee State University and said how important the city and community was to Shawnee State and their future really depends on the partnerships with this community. He said that in the past there may have been some opportunities lost and certainly hoped that they could work together. He addressed the report of parking fees at Shawnee State University and said that the Board of Trustees gave approval to introduce a parking policy and charge up to \$30 per semester or \$60 per year for students and faculty. They are performing a feasibility study and seeking information from employees, students and the community. He said that they were the only public University in Ohio that does not charge a parking fee and those Universities that do charge they use the money for the maintenance and upgrades on their parking facilities. They do not have that revenue stream at the institution and that primarily was the reason for moving forward with the approval from the Board of Trustees. They have received some initial feedback from students, faculty and community and understood that there were some issues that they had not anticipated, but were issues that needed to be addressed before implementing the policy. He addressed the vacation of 3rd Street, he pointed out that they have one of the most beautiful campuses in the State and to a large degree it was because they were able to vacate 2nd Street and the intention was to do the same with 3rd Street, he was not involved with all of the details but the intention at the time of the vacation was to move forward with a large building to support our STEM Program, however it came at a time when enrollment began to decline. He said that he does feel better about their position and he hoped that Council had confidence in them because he believed that they were turning things around. He said in terms of 3rd Street that discussion had begun with ODOT and the City and they were putting together a plan on how to work 3rd Street into the Campus plan but most importantly they were looking to create a bridge between Shawnee State, the downtown area and the Boneyfiddle area. He said that they’ve started that bridge by making a large investment in the Kricker Innovation Hub and by the time they’re finished over the next year and a half, they will have

invested 4.2 million dollars. The intention was to create a community structure but more than just one building, their expectation is to create a gateway from the campus to the downtown area and help in the revitalization

Linda Switzer – 319 Front Street, Portsmouth, OH – She said that Shawnee State was a wonderful school and she got a lot of people that came to her cabin who were parents of Shawnee State students. She said her church supports Shawnee State and they have given out scholarships to help the students. She was told that Shawnee couldn't build anything on 3rd Street because of underground lines and that they were going to go straight up Chillicothe Street. She suggested that they buy the Martings Building and they said "no". She believed that in a way that if they go up Chillicothe Street it would be a good thing.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS AND REPORTS:

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

1. She received on April 17, 2019 notification from the Scioto County Engineers office that the new gas tax increase will go into effect July 1, 2019. The additional tax will be 10.5 cents per gallon on gasoline, 19 cents per gallon of diesel, and an additional \$200 for electric vehicle registration and an additional \$100 for hybrid vehicle registrations.
2. She reminded Council: Sunshine Laws Training needs to be completed so that she could turn them into the State Auditors.
3. She reminded everyone of Portsmouth Day at the Reds on May 19, 2019, and that tickets could be purchased at the Welcome Center.

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

City Manager's Report – Manager Sutherland reported the following:

1. He advised that he had met with Judge Mowery and Casey Boone with the Probation Department and they would like to announce the city wide cleanup will be held on June 8th from 8:00-1:00. There will be a dumpster behind the building in the parking area as well as in Sciotoville behind the Dairy Bar.

The City Manager's report was received, filed and made part of the record, on a motion by Councilwoman Aeh's. The motion carried viva voce: **VOTE: 6 ayes– 0 nays.**

Acting Mayor's Report – Acting Mayor Johnson reported the following:

1. He asked if everyone got the letter from the County about the gas tax and even though he's not crazy about paying more at the pumps, Auditor Williams backed it up with a breakdown of what the city would get from the tax which would amount to around \$350,000 that could be used for our streets

The Acting Mayor's report was received, filed and made part of the record, on a motion by Councilwoman Aeh's. The motion carried viva voce: **VOTE: 6 ayes– 0 nays.**

Solicitor Haas' Report – Solicitor Haas had no report.

Auditor Williams Report – Mr. Williams reported the following:

1. He said that he had emailed his regular report on April 16th along with the letter regarding the gas tax and it would probably be several months from the July 1st start date before it filtered down to the city.
2. He said that they received all of the back sewer revenue from Scioto County at the end of March and the amount was approximately \$320,000 and approximately \$80,000-\$90,000 into the Rigrish Fund.

The Auditor's report was received, filed and made part of the record, on a motion by Councilwoman Aeh's. The motion carried viva voce: **VOTE: 6 ayes– 0 nays.**

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS FROM CITY COUNCIL

1st Ward – Councilman Sean Dunne reported the following:

1. He toured Branch Rickey Stadium with previous Coach Chris Moore as well as the current coach of the Shawnee State University Baseball team and they pointed out different issues that they would like to see as an overall improvement plan over the next few years.
2. He met with Charles Addison who was interested in bringing a Minor League Team to Portsmouth. Mr. Addison was still meeting with different investors and will keep us up to date.
3. He attended a place making event at The Kricker Innovation Center on Chillicothe Street and they discussed the work of people who were newcomers and returnees to Portsmouth. It was a great event and it was a fascinating mix of individuals who were working on a variety of great projects. He added that it was cool to be a part of an event where there was discussion about all these different actions and the momentum of our City.

4. He advised that the tickets will be \$25.00 for the Blues, Brews & Barbeque which will be held on July 13th and the proceeds from the event will go towards the renovation of Spartan Stadium. They will showcase local, regional and statewide musical talents as well as vendors from our area. He's trying to encourage people to learn more about what is available in Portsmouth and there will be a pretty good barbeque contest as well. He would like to explore some type of funds or allowance for the event and had been researching available grants for a facility comparable to Spartan Stadium.
5. He was contacted about the parking fee at the University by residents and business owners. He said one of the main issues was for those that do not want to pay the parking fee, and for those people parking in front of local residents home and businesses.
6. He said that the Arbor Day event was great and thanked Diana for helping to put that together.
7. He met with Jeff from the STEM Academy to discuss the possibility of developing a mountain biking trails for kids on the river side of the floodwall. He said there was a large amount of kids that go out mountain biking and they were trying to expand their activities.

2nd Ward – Councilwoman Aeh reported the following:

1. She attended the Goodwill Industries ribbon cutting last Tuesday, and said it was a very nice facility.
2. She said that the parking fees at Shawnee State affects the residents of the Second Ward and she feared that the students would start parking in front of the resident's homes and a lot these residents were elderly and don't have driveways and will not be able to unload groceries as well as walking longer distances just to get to their homes and saw this as a huge problem. She said there already exists problems from landlords renting rooms to multiple students who each have a car parking on a street that already doesn't have enough parking.

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

1. He had the honor of reading the Arbor Day Proclamation at the Tree City Celebration two weeks ago. He commended Diana and the Shade Tree Commission for putting on the event.
2. He was unable to attend the Goodwill ribbon cutting as he was under the weather.
3. He thanked Manager Sutherland for taking care of the garbage issues in his ward. He reminded the citizens that they cannot throw couches and chairs in the alleys. He commended Andy Gedeon on the work he has done every time he calls in a complaint, Andy gets it taken care of. He addressed the live streaming audience and said that we really need to take care of our city.

4th Ward – Councilman Albrecht wished Derrick Parker Happy Birthday and hoped everyone had a Happy Easter.

5th Ward – Councilman Meadows had no report.

6th Ward – Councilman Lowe reported the following:

1. He thanked Manager Sutherland for taking his call at 6:00 a.m. on Easter Sunday and thanked George James for coming and shutting the water off.
2. He thanked Manager Sutherland and the Service Department for fixing Harding Avenue between Wilson and the Shoe Mart.
3. He gave Andy Gedeon a shout out as he helped to get the house on Sycamore Street condemned.
4. He received a call from Mr. Horsley on Valley Street and he wanted the City to finish what they started. He said the message said that they wanted to build a fence and he suggested that the City check it out before they start on a fence.
5. He asked Manager Sutherland if they had started on the wall on Gallia Street, Manager Sutherland replied that the contractor was getting geared up to start.
6. He said that Council should support the Blues, Brews & Barbeque event and allot a little bit of money to help this event. He sees it as another way to help the event get off the ground. He advised that he would be buying 4 tickets to donate to the community. He suggested maybe a drawing to help get people interested.
7. He wished Derrick Parker a Happy Birthday.

Councilwoman Aeh made a motion to recess into Executive Session at the request of the City Solicitor to discuss pending litigation with the City Manager and the Auditor.

The role was called and the motion carried: **VOTE: 6 ayes– 0 nays, Council recessed into Executive Session at 7:30 p.m.**

**Executive
Session**

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 8:00 p.m.**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:00 p.m. on a motion by Councilwoman Aeh.

City Clerk

Acting Mayor