

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS, OHIO**

Monday, January 25, 2010

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:00 p.m. by President Frank J. Geraci, Jr.

INVOCATION BY: Councilman Michael Dudley, Sr.

ROLL CALL: **PRESENT:** President Frank J. Geraci, Jr.
Council Members Dudley, Marincic, Nenadovich,
Sarnowski, Suster, Vaughn
 EXCUSED: Mahoney

CLMN SUSTER: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to make a motion that we excuse Clwn Mahoney this evening.

AYES: 6

ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: It passes 6-0.

READING AND DISPOSAL OF MINUTES:

Moved by Clmn SUSTER to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of City Council of January 11, 2010 as submitted. The minutes were adopted with six YES votes and one Absent.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO COUNCIL: None.

LEGISLATION OUT OF COMMITTEE: None.

CLWN MARINCIC: Mr. Chairman, I would like to make motion that we waive the 72-Hour Rule on Resolution 07-2010.

RESOLUTION NO: 07-2010

AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR MARKET DEVELOPMENT GRANT FUNDS FOR THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS MADE AVAILABLE BY THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (ODNR).

AYES: 6

ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes 6-0. It is placed on tonight's agenda.

CLMN NENADOVICH: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to take Resolution 05-2010 out of order.

AYES: 6

ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes 6-0.

CLMN NENADOVICH: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to have it read in its entirety, please? And could we have the gentlemen step forward, please?

PRESIDENT GERACI: Would all the gentlemen please step forward?

(The Clerk read Resolution 05-2010 in its entirety.)

Moved by NENADOVICH to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: 6

ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes 6-0.

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

CLMN NENADOVICH: Before I vote, I'd like to thank these men for giving like they do. There's an old joke. They say firemen run into a burning house when everybody's running out. Don't forget, so do our police officers when they have to go in and chase somebody. We've got good safety forces. We may not agree with everything they do, but they're there for us and I appreciate and I vote Yes.

CLMN SUSTER: Before I vote, I'd just like to congratulate these men and thank you very much for being a part of Garfield Heights and I vote Yes.

CLMN VAUGHN: Before I vote, I just want to say thank you, men. Thank you for doing a good job every day. Thank you and I vote Yes.

CLMN DUDLEY: Before I vote, I just want to say God bless you, thank you and we appreciate everything you do. I vote Yes.

CLWN MARINCIC: Before I vote, I want to just say you're all inspiring and I personally appreciate everything you do and pray that God keeps you all safe all the time. I happily vote Yes.

AYES: 6

ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes 6-0. Would the Chief like to say something?

FIRE CHIEF NEMETZ: Thank you, Mayor Collova and to all of City Council for honoring these firefighters and police officers tonight with this resolution. I'd like to say a few things about our two departments and the brave actions taken by these men. Our Fire Department and Police Department work valiantly together as a team to protect the lives of our residents. I know Chief Murphy and I cultivate an environment of cooperation between our two departments and the teamwork displayed that night exemplifies what our departments are capable of accomplishing. It took a lot of courage to take the selfless actions that they took that night. There was a lot of quick, good decisions made, a lot of well executed orders carried out and a lot of just plain old bravery shown by these individuals. These men performed these acts that night for the same reason they got into this line of work in the first place. Because of their motivation to serve and protect lives. They did just that and because of this were able to rescue three of our residents. I think all of these men deserve a round of applause for their bravery at this incident.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Would the Mayor like to say anything?

MAYOR VICTOR COLLOVA: Thank you, Mr. Geraci. Chief, firefighters, police. I can't tell you how many phone calls I received shortly after that fire commending all of you. We appreciate what you do. We

really do. The citizens out there really appreciate you. I want to tell you on behalf of the citizens of Garfield Heights I think we've got the best fire and police force around. I've said it numerous times and so has everybody at this table. I appreciate what you did and it's not only you gentlemen. You gentlemen happened to be there at that time, but I'm sure anybody on the force would have done the same thing—fire and police. We appreciate your efforts and we wish you well.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you, Mayor. Would the police chief have any comments?

POLICE CHIEF MURPHY: I'd just like to say I'm extremely proud to be called their chief and these gentlemen over here the same. I think one thing's maybe. Just a little side note. This guy's father was a Cleveland police officer, he's got a brother that's a police officer. His father works for the city. Michael Coyne, I had an opportunity to work with his father for 20 some years. He was a sergeant in the police department. His brother's a fireman in Solon. Lt. Nelson's brother was a fire officer here and he's now the chief out in Independence. His father was a firefighter. Good quality people from bloodlines that say we are here to serve and we're proud to serve. Thank you.

PRESIDENT GERACI: I just have a comment to make in regards to the accomplishments that our law enforcement officers have made throughout the years. I commend you in regards to your duties that you perform every day. It's just quite a challenging times that we live in today and I compliment each and every one of you. Please take a time off or enjoy the evening or do what you got to do. Thank you again. I appreciate it.

REPORTS OF THE MAYOR AND DIRECTORS:

PRESIDENT GERACI: We will now move on to the report of the Mayor. Mayor Collova.

MAYOR VICTOR COLLOVA: Thank you, Mr. Geraci and Members of Council. I've got a few things I want to discuss tonight. First off we caught a break. Everybody that's been coming to Council Meetings for the last year knows about the theater that we've been trying to get torn down. Well, through a lot of efforts, most of them through Noreen Kuban, we have received the word that we're going to get a \$100,000.00 grant to tear down the theater. So it's finally coming down so we're really happy about that. Thanks to Noreen.

The second thing is on Wednesday the 27th at 7 o'clock we're going to have the Mill Creek Trail Meeting. Some of us already were at some of the meetings, but I want to tell those of you that don't know what's going on with this Mill Creek we have an opportunity, I believe, of a lifetime here in Garfield Heights. When they're talking about putting this trail through from Warner Road up down Turney Road through the park they're not only talking about putting a trail but they're talking about beautifying Garfield Blvd. like you can't believe. I mean they're talking about a landscape, a streetscape that's going to be phenomenal, from all the pictures they've shown us. This is going to be an important thing for Garfield Heights and I would urge all of you to come to this meeting to put your input into this because there's going to be a big change. This is at 7 o'clock Wednesday right here. Tell your neighbors this is really something that's going to be great for Garfield Heights.

CLWN SARNOWSKI: Excuse me, Mayor. Was it seven o'clock or six-thirty?

MAYOR VICTOR COLLOVA: I have seven. Noreen?

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR NOREEN KUBAN: I'm sorry. We did have to change it to six-thirty.

MAYOR VICTOR COLLOVA: OK. I'm sorry. It's six-thirty. But come. I think this is going to be something good for Garfield Heights. And the amount of money that's going to cost the city. We're going to try to get it for zero but it will be very minimal at best.

The next thing I want to touch on a little bit, as much as I don't want to, it's important for everybody to understand. As we talked about at the last meeting, we have a deficit of \$1.4 million. On Wednesday at four o'clock, a little sooner than the six-thirty, at four o'clock, we have a meeting with the State and the State is looking for us to respond to them how we're going to fill that gap of \$1.4 million. We have been working real hard, working on contracts, changing some of the contracts, changing some of the vendors. We've been able to save quite a bit of money and I think we're going to look yet before the thing is over probably from \$200,000.00 to \$250,000.00 in savings just by vendors, Medical Mutual, different agencies, different contracts we're going to be saving that much money. But that still brings us a long way from \$1.4 million. Now I had a meeting with all the Unions and I've talked to some of my staff, most of my staff. Every single Union person, every staff person has given up something in the last year. They've all given back and made concessions to help the city. I met with them again and I told them we're still up against it and every single one of them has agreed to help in every way they can. Not every single one of them but the majority--the vast majority--said we'll reach again to help the city. So we have some ideas we're looking at down the road, but even with their help and with the savings that we're going to make with the contracts and the vendor changes we're still going to come up about \$900,000.00 to \$1 million short.

Now I'm going to ask right now the State is expecting us to tell them how we're going to make up that money. I'm going to ask the State at the meeting on Wednesday to give us a 90 day extension so we can fully realize all the savings that we're going to get inside. We're squeezing as tight as we can and we're going to try to come up with a number with them. We'll sit down and meet with the Unions again and see how much help we're going to get from them. Like I said they've been very agreeable and I appreciate it. But folks, the fact remains that the State wants us to fill that hole and they're giving us three options. One of the options they gave us was overtime and we're working on that right now and I think we'll be able to bring that down some of which will help reduce that number also. But the three options that I have to present to them or we have to (I mean Council and myself) is a rubbish collection charge of some sort, reduction of the tax credit or a layoff. When we're talking about layoffs folks, we're talking about everybody—safety forces, etc. That's the last thing we want to do and also the last thing we want to do is taxes, but I want you to know that that's what we're faced with. They're not giving us any leeway around it. I do not have a magic pill to come up with a million dollars, nor do my Finance people. So once again, the residents and the employees are going to be asked to bite the bullet. Now if they give me the 90 days I welcome any kind of venue. I welcome anything from the residents if you have any input whatsoever, I'm willing to listen to anything. But I want to be very honest and I want to be above board and I'm telling you this now because this is in our futures as much as I hate to do it. It's not an easy thing to become Mayor and two months later say I'm looking to go to the residents and my employees for money. But the State has given me no option whatsoever. So Council and I have spoken about it. We're ready to make the tough decisions and hopefully they won't have to be as tough as what the State's making it out to be, but we'll know more after the State meeting on Wednesday. I invite you to attend. It's at four o'clock Wednesday here and we'll get a little better idea of what's going on. If that State tells me we don't get the 90 days we have to make a decision next week so I just want everybody to be aware of what's down the road and hopefully we can get through this. The money that the Finance has come up with at the end of 2010, the projections, look pretty good because the money we're going to realize from the buyouts and the other cuts in staff and the wage reductions will come up and it's quite a bit of money. We're talking about quite a bit of money but we won't realize those dollars until the end of 2010. We need to fill the gap that was made for 2009 of the \$1.4 million. But I'm hopeful that once we get through this 2009 that 2010 will level everything off. With that said I'll be keeping you informed and I'll definitely be keeping everything above board. Anybody needs to call me or ask any questions I'll be more than happy to answer.

I want to get into tonight's legislation briefly. Ordinance 04-2010. We're increasing the parking tickets. They were \$15.00 and \$25.00. Now we're going to increase them to \$25.00 and \$40.00. It's obvious why we're doing it. We're trying to stop people from parking in the wrong places. We need those streets safe. Ordinance 05-2010. This is the appropriations for 2010 as it was figured out and I have to tell you what. We've been at many meetings where we beat Obert up pretty good, but I got to tell you what. Him and Ron Tomola and

Barb Miller did a hell of a job on these appropriations. They did a good job. So if you have any questions he'll be able to answer that for you. Ordinance 06-2010. We're putting a grass cutting program into place where we want to cut the grass every three weeks at the vacant homes. Then after we cut the grass we'll send invoices out every month. They were being sent out once a year but we're going to send them out every month. We believe that this is going to generate quite a bit of income. On the old ordinance it said that the letters that you send out have to be registered or certified mail and after checking with other cities that don't do it, we're just going to go with regular mail. That will save us some more money. We're trying to save money in every way we can.

Resolution 04-2010. That's about that CRIS program. That's a computer system that regionalizes information for the police department throughout the county. It's an automatic renewal. Resolution 05-2010 was just the police and fire and again we can't thank them enough for the work they do. It's not easy to congratulate them on one sense and talk about layoffs in the other, but they seriously do do a good job. Resolution 06-2010 is asking for a moratorium on utilities through the winter months. We're trying to stop the utility companies from turning people's utilities off in that time even if they're delinquent in their payments.

Ordinance 01-2010. This is a staffing ordinance. There is an amendment adding one foreman and the Assistant Law Director. This has already been talked to by the State. This ordinance will go to them again on Wednesday but they already agreed to it. So I urge passage on that. Of course Resolution 02-2010 once again is the resolution that brings Kevin Weiler on as Assistant Law Director and we're looking forward to having him. With that you have my report.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you, Mayor Collova. Are there any questions for the Mayor?

CLWN MARINCIC: Mayor, say the worst case scenario happens and I'm hoping that it doesn't that the State would say it wouldn't give us another 90 days? If they don't what was the original deadline that we had? Was it the 27th? Or the 30th?

MAYOR VICTOR COLLOVA: What they told me was the 27th was when I had to have the Plan. The Plan that I'm presenting them is a Plan on what we have been able to do up to this point with the Medical Mutual, etc. We're going to tell him what we have saved up to this point. I want to project to him just like I did here about the money that I believe we could save if they would continue to let me redo these contracts. When I'm talking about contracts, I'm not talking about labor contracts, I'm talking about vendor contracts. I'm going to present that to them and with that ask for the 90 days. Today Mr. Obert met with Tish. They probably got into the finer details that I even know about at the time because it was late this afternoon and I haven't talked to them but the worst case scenario we will all find out Wednesday.

CLWN MARINCIC: Let's hope they give us the 90 days. That's all I have. Thank you.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Any other questions for the Mayor?

CLMN SUSTER: Do you think this is going to set well with Paul Marshall? He's expecting a Plan on Wednesday and if the completed Plan isn't ready and we're asking him for 90 days do you think that's going to set well with him? Or is he going to think that he drove up here from Columbus for nothing?

MAYOR VICTOR COLLOVA: Well, unless he wants to come in and send out layoff letters the next day he doesn't have much of a choice. He's got to give me some time. We can't do anything Friday. What I think is going to happen is I think that they're going to tell us that we have 90 days or we don't have 90 days or it has to be in place and they may make another meeting for the following week. I don't know how demanding they're going to be, but they asked me to put together a Plan for the 27th. I can tell them exactly what they're going to save if they have layoffs; I can tell them exactly what they're going to save if they have rubbish collection; I can tell them exactly what they're going to save with the tax reduction. I could show them all these savings. I'm going to ask him before we implement any of them that they give us 90 days to make sure that if we do have to go the residents we're going at the least amount we have to go. I want to be able to

squeeze everything we can squeeze dry out of our city and then if we have to go to the residents we'll go at that rate. I'm going to explain that to him on Wednesday. He'll either say yes or no. My gut feeling is he's going to give us some time. I don't know how much time but I don't foresee him saying tomorrow you have to do something. The problem is with the uncertainty of it is you don't know what they're going to say. The State's been being put off, really, if you want to use those words, for about a year. I don't know how nice they were to Mayor Longo when he talked to them but they're not real nice to me. When they're telling me they want something done and I say this jokingly but it's true, they're looking for something done. I think we can get it done but it's going to take a little time and I hope they understand that. I know that's not answering your question, Joe, but I won't know until I talk to them on Wednesday.

CLMN SUSTER: But Tish actually works for the State and she's been working with Mr. Obert on the Plan so I imagine she's already related some of this information to Paul Marshall. What I'm saying is I don't want him to show up here Wednesday for this meeting and then the Plan isn't completed and then you know he'd really take it out on you for that reason. You know what I mean?

MAYOR VICTOR COLLOVA: If we had to complete the Plan we could complete it in an hour and it would just be a matter of getting it past Council. There's ways of getting the number. We can get that \$1.4 million. It's just that we don't want to do it right away, but if he forces us to do it Council will have to sit down and decide which way to go.

CLMN SUSTER: OK.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Any other questions for the Mayor? Of not, we'll move on . City Law Director Mr. Tim Riley.

LAW DIRECTOR TIMOTHY RILEY: No report.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Any questions for Mr. Riley? We'll move on. Service Director Mr. Tim McLaughlin. Welcome aboard.

SERVICE DIRECTOR TIM McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. President. I'd like to give you the snow and salt report. Last year at this time we had 65.1" of snow fell. We used 2,636 tons of salt. The high overtime for an employee was 133 hours. This year as of this date it's 39.3" of snow, 1,664 tons of salt and the high employees have 88 hours. Last couple weeks with the break in the weather it gave us time to get the Christmas decorations down, cleaned off and put away. All the crews right now are working with cold patch. We're going around getting the large pot holes and we'll continue to do that. We are starting to go through some of our equipment, etc. for the spring and it's just falling into getting everything under control. We are also, as the Mayor mentioned, we are looking at all our vendors. We're going through a list of seeing if we can get more people that can give us better prices. So that's one of the projects that I'm working on right now. That's all I have.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you, Mr. McLaughlin. Any questions for Mr. McLaughlin?

CLWN MARINCIC: Don't leave us again. That wasn't any fun. Bryan tried but he wasn't you. That's all I have to say.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Anybody else? If not, we'll move on. Recreation Director Mr. Bob Dobies.

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR ROBERT DOBIES: Mr. President and Council Members, good evening. Just a few items this evening. As I reported last meeting, we are taking registrations for our futsal and our soccer programs until February 1st. If you know anyone interested, please have them call or stop by the recreation facility to register. We will be enjoying the company of the Seventh Grade Middle School on Friday the 29th for an open public session from 10 a.m. till 2:30 p.m. Saturday in honor of Ice Skating Month, we have a free skate sponsored by our skating boosters in conjunction with the U.S. National Skating Association. That will be from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. If anyone watched skating this weekend in lieu of football, we surely hope to enjoy in the future a skater coming out of Garfield Heights program to one day skate in the national levels and hopefully one day in the Olympics. Last, I would like to remind everyone that we will have the 17th Annual Melt The Ice Tournament that will be the weekend of February 12th, 13th and

14th. This tournament benchmarks the end of another successful youth hockey season and is held in honor of Mr. Chuck Sirocco, one of the founding fathers of our program. Please mark your calendars for this event. Thank you.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you, Mr. Dobies. By the way, Mr. Dobies, congratulations on your election to President of the School Board.

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR ROBERT DOBIES: Thank you, Mr. Geraci.

PRESIDENT GERACI: You're welcome. Any questions for Mr. Dobies?

CLWN MARINCIC: Congratulations, as well. The ice rink. Can you walk around it?

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR ROBERT DOBIES: As a matter of fact, we've been contemplating this, too. Yes, you can. You're not going to go around the rink four or five deep abreast, you know what I'm saying? Two can walk comfortably. We have to do 9 ½ laps to do one mile in there.

CLWN MARINCIC: Because I'd like to do that.

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR ROBERT DOBIES: We do have some residents that come on a daily basis (a handful). I was just in contact with Kathy Parssons from the Senior Center last week and I asked her to do a survey for me if there would be any interested Senior citizens that would like to partake in that to begin with and I'd like to open it up to residents too. Especially during the bad inclement weather. It would be an opportunity for somebody that wants to exercise that they could so we'll be looking forward to doing that here in the near future.

CLWN MARINCIC: At what time does the Rec open in the morning?

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR ROBERT DOBIES: Basically we're there. It depends who's scheduled in, but by eight o'clock in the morning. Usually by ten. Between ten and two-thirty we usually have an open session during that time so it could be accommodating to a lot of people.

CLWN MARINCIC: Because even though I'm not a Senior yet I would like to go and walk. I usually walk a lot and this snow lately it's been holding me back and I thought I wonder how many times you got to walk around there? It's 9.5.

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR ROBERT DOBIES: One of my guys, Bob Alicia, he measured it off for me today. It's about nine and a half laps.

CLWN MARINCIC: I'll be seeing you there. Thank you very much.

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR ROBERT DOBIES: You're welcome.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Any other questions for Mr. Dobies? If not, we'll move on. Economic Development. Ms. Noreen Kuban.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR NOREEN KUBAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to discuss Resolution number 07-2010. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources has a grant program. It's the Market Development Grant Fund. Non-profit agencies and businesses can apply for funding up to \$250,000.00. However, they do need a sponsor. In this case we have a local business, Baumann Enterprises, which does demolition work who is interested in applying for the funding. This is for a recycling program for demolition material. As you all know many times States are limiting what can go into landfills and this will allow Baumann Enterprises to set up an operation to recycle materials. They will be putting up a matching fund if they get the grant of \$250,000.00. City funds will not be involved. Thank you.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you, Ms. Kuban. Any questions for Ms. Kuban?

CLWN SARNOWSKI: I know in the past we've gotten a grant for the salary of our DARE/GREAT Officer. Have we applied for any salaries from CDBG for any other salaried positions such as in the Building Department? Or anybody else? I know Cleveland Heights has a Building inspector paid for the last couple years through this CDBG grant money.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR NOREEN KUBAN: They do? OK. I'm not aware that that was available for funding, but I will check with Cleveland Heights. I know a couple people over there and then I believe our DARE Officer has retired.

CLWN SARNOWSKI: I know we did that in the past for salaries but I never thought you could do it for like a building inspector's I guess it falls under the same rules as any other grant. It's the area whatever it's a certain area or certain types of people, etc.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR NOREEN KUBAN: I'll call Cleveland Heights and see what they're doing, because I'm not really familiar with what they're doing.

CLWN SARNOWSKI: Thank you.

CLMN NENADOVICH: Ms. Kuban, the funding, this NSP 1 and 2 funds that we are having for demolition of stuff. Would that be a part of the demolition where the debris would go to these people? Or would they be doing the demolitions of the homes?

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR NOREEN KUBAN: Actually they would be a separate program. The Councilman's referring to Neighborhood Stabilization Program Funds that we want to apply for funding to demolish some vacant houses. If they were to get grant funding they could open up their recycling facility and materials from demolitions from residential units could be sent to this facility. But you know this will take a few months to get up and running if they get funded. But Mr. Baumann's intent is that he does some demolitions countywide is to recycle materials and save those materials from going to landfills. So ultimately demolished houses could go to this site. The timing wouldn't be exact.

CLMN NENADOVICH: Thank you.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Any other questions?

CLWN MARINCIC: Ms. Kuban, several months ago you told me that the old theater was going to be deeded into the County Land Bank and they were going to demolish it and then give us back the clear land. Is that still going to happen now that we've gotten the grant to demolish it?

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR NOREEN KUBAN: That's what the Mayor was discussing. The Land Bank is going to demolish the building and once it's demolished they'll deed the title back to us.

CLWN MARINCIC: OK and the grant money will go to the County then to demolish the building?

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR NOREEN KUBAN: The County Land Bank will demolish the building at no cost to the city, so it's a grant to us in the sense that we we'll be getting a vacant parcel back.

CLWN MARINCIC: Any idea when that's going to happen?

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR NOREEN KUBAN: It will probably take anywhere from two to five months to actually do the demolition work. They'll have to transfer title to the County Land Bank. They'll demolish the building then they'll transfer it to the city of Garfield Heights.

CLWN MARINCIC: And that grant money will be used for the demolition?

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR NOREEN KUBAN: Well, it's not really grant. They're funded through fines and interests and penalties from real estate taxes and they also have corporate funds some bonds and they got some NSP 2 funding through the Federal government. I think it's \$4.1 million. That was in the newspaper. So, yes, it will be all funded through non-city sources at no cost to us.

CLWN MARINCIC: OK. Thank you.

CLMN DUDLEY: Do you foresee now that some of these grants are starting to open up for the various cities so we have anything that's becoming available or we see in the near future that can help some of the residents, you know, like before, to make some of the repairs to their homes?

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR NOREEN KUBAN: Actually their funding to residents through the city is no longer available but there are grant funds to residents through the County. I regularly meet with residents about grants. Some are loans. We try to put together a package for them to resolve any of their housing code violations. I'll be meeting with a resident for instance later this week and we'll be talking about which options are available for her.

CLMN DUDLEY: As options outside of what you already work with?

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR NOREEN KUBAN: Well the same ones, but I'm going to sit down with her and go through every single option and try to put together a package for her.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Any other questions? I have a question in regards to what we talked about in Caucus. If you could look into that rumor that's going around in regards to Giant Eagle closing? There's rumors that are flying out there. They're anticipating moving out in March? If you could squash that and look into that?

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR NOREEN KUBAN: Yes, I'll do that.

MAYOR VICTOR COLLOVA: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to respond if I can? I've been in contact with the receiver, Don Shapiro, and he talked to me. We all know about the convention center that's supposed to be opening up February 27th. There was a hitch involved and that hitch was that Giant Eagle did not give their approval and under their contract they had to approve the new tenants that were coming in. So Giant Eagle had said they were not going to approve it so I spoke with the receiver and he asked me to call Giant Eagle. I spoke with Giant Eagle. Giant Eagle has said that they're saying that that place is not right for City View and I told them I don't know how they could think an empty building is more right for City View than that convention center that's going to bring thousands of people. I really believe they're trying to negotiate their lease agreement and they're trying to hold out and play hard ball. They're supposed to meet today, but at no time did they hint to me that they were looking to close. They actually told the receiver that although they were not doing as good as they'd like to, they're still not doing bad so they did not hint in any way, shape or form that they wanted to leave. They're just looking to bargain a better deal.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you, Mayor. Any questions? Finance Director Mr. Richard Obert.

FNANCE DIRECTOR RICHARD OBERT: I would like to comment on what the Mayor said. I did have a meeting with the State today and I'll amplify it. Our budget you have before you is balanced to the penny. As a matter of fact there's about \$2 million going to be left over next year. But the problem is out of the \$57 million the two millions and the \$36 million are for other funds, all right? That's where the balance of this money is. It's like separate check books if you want to think of it like that. So you get back to say the General Fund and that's where all our safety forces are, all our major employees. They called it a hole. You have to make assumptions. Our real estate went down 12% last year. That's the delinquency factor—not payments. We're hoping that this year it will stabilize. The actual County reduced it in the budget 11%. So if you add the two together it's 23. Our income tax dropped \$1,455,000.00 last year. The first month, January, dropped another 100. We made two assumptions. I like how the Mayor referred it to as a hole. The hole is in this General Fund revenue: two items. Our income tax will not go down. Right now it's to a 98 level and if it would drop another million we'd be back at 95 level. Then the cameras. The cameras were projected in the original report in March as \$945,000.00—the traffic cameras. They are not installed and right now we had to reevaluate them for this year's budget and it was \$712,000.00 is all it would be available for the General Fund. So you add the two together the income tax increase which I had as 175 and 712 and it comes up to a \$900,000.00 hole. That is the hole that we are attempting by these contract reductions, by overtime reductions, increase in emergency fees, our squads which I did not increase that. I think we're on the safe side on this side and I also 12% budget reduction in our real estate taxes. That's a lot of money because these taxes are \$12 million. So that's over \$1,440,000.00. So we have a balanced budget. We have to by State law.

It is balanced but with these conditions coming in and here's the kicker. And this is what they want, all right? They want to see a reserve and it's not so much like, my God we have \$2 million. You don't have it in your operational end and our General Fund is \$21 million. About \$12 million is just for our safety forces, that one figure the 12 and the 9 is for the administration, etc. so the trick to this thing now is after we do all these reductions is to say all right, we're back in the black. They wanted a reserve here for a contingency like what just happened in January and I pray to God it straightens out. You're really talking about the whole economy. I read the papers. I watch TV. I get all these magazines. This thing's got to turn around. Don't let it kid yourself. You see it in the numbers. We're doing great but you don't see it in the numbers. People are not working. You got to get people back to work. By the way the State of Ohio has exactly the same problems that we have. So we are not unique. They have the same operating deficit in their General Fund, but it's in the billions.

So with that I think like the Mayor said, our job is really to cut to the bone. And the three choices that he described are basically all we have. You could do the layoffs according to whatever number they will come up with. They didn't come up with a number yet. You can reduce the tax credit it doesn't affect the Seniors in the city or the people working in the city. It only affects the people outside the city. You could raise the rate through a vote of the people. That wouldn't be until November or have a special election in May. And basically charge for garbage. I hate to say our sister city is doing all of this. Maple Heights is doing all this. But they look at it it's just numbers but the little ones add up to larger numbers. What they're looking for is like \$2 million. They want to see that rainy day fund. They want to see that to weather any of the economic conditions that our country is in right now. With that in mind that's what we have to discuss with Mr. Marshall if he would allow us time to do these further reductions. I was saying to the Caucus--I don't know if you overheard me down there?--what he requires us normally from the State of Ohio and the County we have three months. This stuff is all due March 31st. This stuff was balanced, there are three different checkbooks to the penny. It's done. You're Mayor's estimate you got with actual numbers in it. Not projected, those are the numbers. And all you can do these are assumptions at this point in time. If we would be allowed to go to March we would have seen on the income tax the trend in the first three months. This is what I was fighting about this morning. That was the core of my meeting. It's up to Mr. Marshall and the Commission to decide if they would like to extend some time for us to get to the real numbers and get a better idea. That's all I have, Thank you.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you, Mr. Obert. Any questions for Mr. Obert?

CLMN DUDLEY: Share with us again the amount that we possibly believe that's going to be saved through the buyouts, etc. the money that we projected coming toward the end of 2010 that we do not have now.

FINANCE DIRECTOR RICHARD OBERT: You have here. These numbers are balanced. Real estate revenue this year is \$831,000.00 more in real dollars we're supposed to collect. That's with the 12% reduction. Administrative savings from the Administration's cuts was \$737,400.06. Employees not replaced in the buyout \$1,484,453.62. But again it's going to take the 12 months to get to that number. It doesn't happen in January. It's a steady reduction of payroll and the pension costs, benefit costs and healthcare. Traffic camera revenue \$712,406.00. Court rebill \$91,000.00. That's an increase in the Court. Health care reduction. \$92,000.00. We do have some extra things we could do with that. Income tax increase. I projected we should go with at least \$175,000.00 gross on that tax increase from the State of Ohio \$39,500.00. So full revenues and savings \$4,163,000.00. The buyout costs \$659,246.60. We have that cost for another two years. 2010 and 2011. Deficit in the General Fund \$1,418,000.00. Net savings 2010 \$2,185,000.00. Again, the money's not all in the General Fund. So when Tish came up today I gave her one of these reports and all the back documents that support these numbers to come up with these numbers. I said you have to understand one thing. When you go through that entire buyout, etc. these people were charged all over the place. You cannot charge people from Nutrition for example to the General Fund. The savings would be realized in Nutrition. Last week we had a surplus in the Nutrition Fund and a surplus in Recreation. \$170,000.00 because of these buyouts. Personnel were removed. She is in the process of trying. I think they'll explain it on Wednesday. They said they would like to put you on a 12 month expenditure cycle and we basically have it with our Bluebooks that you get. You see there's a percentage in that. If you go three months you're at

33%, six months, 50%. That's a topic that will be discussed Wednesday at our meeting. It all depends on when new revenues come in. We got a couple of advances from our real estate. We're doing great. We give them back in July. You have a few months where there's very little revenue coming in. It's like a juggling act to make sure you have all the pension money, the health care costs, and on these reductions we started a little bit at our staff meeting today. You look at the overtime. It's nice but we have to justify this stuff. Or it's people. The Mayor's trying to do the right thing with the employees, etc. and just giving us enough time and if the economy would just take a little turn to the better or stay where it's at even, we would be fine. We'll be out of this next year completely.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Any other questions?

CLWN SARNOWSKI: I have a question to direct to the Mayor. How many job openings or how many more employees are we looking to replace? It says that the employees that we do not replace is a saving. Are we looking at a new foreman? We're looking to put in an Assistant Law Director. Are there any other employee positions that you're looking at?

MAYOR VICTOR COLLOVA: The only thing that would come up is people that are scheduled to leave. We have six or seven people scheduled to leave in June or July. We would probably have to replace the majority of those because we're probably at bare minimum right now. But as far as me putting anybody on, the only other program we're looking to put on is the grass cutting program and that grass cutting program will be part-time people and seasonal people. We will show the State that the money there that we're going to try to double the money we brought in last year, \$96,000.00, and we're looking to bring in close to \$200,000.00 next year by adding some part-time people on. That's the only thing that I have coming up.

CITY ENGINEER DAVID NEUMEYER: Absent.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Any other questions? Building Commissioner Mr. Bill Wervey.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER WILLIAM WERVEY: No report.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Any questions for Mr. Wervey?

CLWN MARINCIC: Just two things. You will be in contact with that resident of mine tomorrow?

BUILDING COMMISSIONER WILLIAM WERVEY: Mrs. Edwards?

CLWN MARINCIC: Yes.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER WILLIAM WERVEY: Yes.

CLWN MARINCIC: Secondly if Marymount presents any plans for additions or alterations or any alterations to the property will you let me know immediately?

BUILDING COMMISSIONER WILLIAM WERVEY: Yes.

CLWN MARINCIC: OK. And there is nothing right now on the table?

BUILDING COMMISSIONER WILLIAM WERVEY: Right now they have met with me to discuss a couple of options but they have presented nothing to the city at this point.

CLWN MARINCIC: OK. Have they given you a hint at a time that they may?

BUILDING COMMISSIONER WILLIAM WERVEY: I think they are looking at budgets right now. Their partners downtown evidently are tightening the purse strings.

CLWN MARINCIC: OK. Like I say anything, an addition, alteration anything inside or out I'd like to know about.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER WILLIAM WERVEY: I'd be glad to.

CLWN MARINCIC: OK. Thank you so much.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Any other questions? If not that concludes the reports from the Mayors and the Directors.

COMMENTS BY CITIZENS:

PRESIDENT GERACI: Comments from the Citizens. Is there anybody interested in having some comments and I'll read the rules. Comments shall be strictly limited to a brief statement not to exceed five minutes with comments limited to legislation on the current evening's agenda and no citizen shall speak more than once.

David Mays, 8250 Green Drive. Resolution 04-2010. The \$40.00 on the parking tickets. How did you come up with this? Mayor?

LAW DIRECTOR TIMOTHY RILEY: We looked around and saw what the other cities were charging. And pretty much that's the norm for surrounding suburbs, city of Cleveland. That's how we came up with the number.

MR. MAYS: OK. My opinion on this, you may be asking me as a citizen, as a law abiding citizen, to come up with garbage disposal money, etc. I think you should be asking the people that are breaking the laws of the city of Garfield to come up with a lot more. More like \$75.00 a parking ticket. The second time around they get their car towed and a parking ticket and they pay the towing. If you went to \$75.00 a ticket, my ward, Ward 3, in one night, Saturday night, somewhere between 20 and 25 cars were counted between 4:00 and 5:30 in the morning. This is not unusual. This is the normal condition. If you took 20 cars times \$75.00 that's \$7,500.00. Correct? \$7,500 times 20.

CLMN SUSTER: \$1,500.00

MR. MAYS: I'm sorry. \$1,500.00. So that's \$6,000.00 a month if you only ticket 25 cars. If you ticket 100 cars the city of Garfield what have you got? You've got \$7,500.00, right? And I'm sure you could get 75 other cars in one night in the city of Garfield. If you want to start making money, I think you should start there. With the people that are breaking the law, not the people that are abiding by the law.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Any comments?

CLMN SUSTER: Mr. Mays, the reason that we went with the fees that are on there as Mr. Riley said, we did a check with the other suburbs were charging as far as tickets go. I know what you're saying and it's a good idea but we can't continually. We don't want anybody to say we're over charging. The other reason that we did this is because of the problems that we're having during the winter months especially when it's snowing and the guys can't plow the streets because of the amount of cars that are out on the street. That's why we went the way we did and that was the reason not only because of the snow but also in the summer months you get a lot of people parking outside anyhow so but we just tried to get in line with everybody else.

MR. MAYS: Why are we worried about what other people are doing? When are we going to start worrying about the city of Garfield? Let me finish please. I don't care what Maple Heights charges. I don't care what Parma charges. I don't care what Independence charges. We're worried about the city of Garfield. When I see the same car parked on the street in the same place two to three nights a week—mornings a week, excuse me--at 5:30 in the morning and I've counted 15 times and I've seen one ticket on it, one ticket at 15 times. There's something wrong someplace. So I think we should stop worrying about other people and start worrying about this city.

CLWN SARNOWSKI: I have a question for Mr. Riley. Is there any kind of law that the second ticket in the same place that they're charged more or so many tickets in the same place that they're towed?

LAW DIRECTOR TIMOTHY RILEY: You could make it escalate. You could do that. If they committed the same violation in the same place two times in a row you could make it an escalating offense. But we'd have to keep track of that, do some sort of record keeping on that.

CLMN SUSTER: Excuse me, I'd like to ask the police chief a question. If they went with this say on an escalating scale say if you would call in a plate number would it come up and say that they had a parking ticket a week ago?

CHIEF MURPHY: *(Inaudible.)*

CLMN VAUGHN: Another question for the chief. I'm sorry Chief, but could we feasibly really tie up an officer every night to do parking tickets?

CHIEF MURPHY: There is a 3 to 6 parking violation as everyone knows. We try to address it as much as we can. We have over 25,000 calls for service. Obviously parking is not the highest priority that we have but we do try. Most of you folks know that you can call in and give us a particular complaint about an area. We try to hit that area within the next few nights. I don't have the numbers in front of me. We write an awful lot of parking tickets throughout the year. I could not tell you how many of them are paid. I don't know. But to be able to say that we'll have an officer at night go out and be able to write a ticket for every parked car in the city would be a promise that I couldn't make. We do the best that we can. There are a few that do have permits—very few. There are some that do have permits but we try to do that on a complaint basis and as I say, most of you folks know what we do because you call us with complaints.

CLMN SUSTER: Also isn't it, say, if I call from my street, Brunswick, not only do the people on Brunswick get tickets but the people on Mountview, everybody in that area.

CHIEF MURPHY: Yes. We explain that to all the Council people if they call in from Edgepark that the streets around Edgepark or anyplace else are going to be hit as hard. We have a couple cars in each zone and it's 3 to 6 so obviously if the car's parked at 4 and we missed it at 3 it's going to get a free ride, so to speak. We will do everything we can to write as many parking tickets as we can because it does us good too. Streets shouldn't have cars parked on them, It's safer for the police officers, safer for the community and it looks better. Hope that answers the question?

CLMN SUSTER: Thank you.

CLWN SARNOWSKI: Thank you.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Are there any more questions on the agenda from the residents?

Carisa Salee, 13402 Christine Avenue. I'm not sure if it was agenda but the Mayor just addressed my question with regards to City View and the possibility of losing Giant Eagle and he says that rumor is going to be squelched.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Could you save that towards the end of the agenda, please? Thank you. Any other questions in regard to the agenda items? We'll move on. Committee Reports. Are there any tonight?

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None.

PRESIDENT GERACI: We'll move on to the Ordinances and Resolutions beginning with the Ordinances.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

ORDINANCE NO. 01-2010

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING ORDINANCE NO. 18-2009 OF THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS.

Moved by SUSTER to ADOPT ON SECOND READING:

AYES: 6

ABSENT: 1

VOTE ON ADOPTION ON SECOND READING:

AYES: 6

ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes 6-0.

ORDINANCE NO.: 04-2010

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 351.99, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS RELATIVE TO THE PENALTIES FOR PARKING VIOLATIONS WITHIN THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS.

Moved by SUSTER to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: 6

ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes 6-0.

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: 6

ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes 6-0.

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

AYES: 6

ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes 6-0.

ORDINANCE NO.: 05-2010

TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENDITURES FOR THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS, OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2010.

Moved by SUSTER to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: 6

ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes 6-0.

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: 6

ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes 6-0.

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

AYES: 6

ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes 6-0.

ORDINANCE NO.: 06-2010

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 551.03, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS RELATIVE TO THE INVOICE OF COSTS IN CHAPTER 551: WEEDS IN THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS.

Moved by SUSTER to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: 6

ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes 6-0.

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: 6

ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes 6-0.

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

CLWN MARINCIC: I think this a great idea. It will speed up the whole process and I vote Yes.

AYES: 6

ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes 6-0.

RESOLUTION NO.: 02-2010

AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE APPOINTMENT BY THE LAW DIRECTOR OF KEVIN P. WEILER TO ACT AS ASSISTANT TO THE LAW DIRECTOR FOR THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS, OHIO, DURING THE PERIOD COMMENCING JANUARY 18, 2010, TO SERVE AT THE PLEASURE OF THE LAW DIRECTOR.

Moved by MARINCIC to PASS ON SECOND READING:

AYES: 6

ABSENT: 1

VOTE ON ADOPTION ON SECOND READING:

AYES: 4

PRESENT: 2

ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: Present goes with the majority. That passes.

RESOLUTION NO.: 04-2010

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AGREEMENTS BY AND BETWEEN THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, THE CUYAHOGA REGIONAL INFORMATION SYSTEM BOARD OF ADVISORS, THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS LAW DIRECTOR AND THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Moved by MARINCIC to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: 6

ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes 6-0.

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: 6

ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes 6-0.

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

AYES: 6

ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes 6-0.

RESOLUTION NO: 06-2010

AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION ASKING THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF OHIO TED STRICKLAND TO ISSUE AN IMMEDIATE MORATORIUM TO PREVENT THE DISCONNECTION OF THE GAS AND ELECTRIC UTILITIES AFFECTING CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS RESIDENTS, FROM JANUARY 25th, 2010 TO MARCH 31st, 2010.

Moved by DUDLEY to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: 6

ABSENT: 1

CLMN DUDLEY: I move to amend this to read also to include November 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011.

CLWN SARNOWSKI: What sections are you putting it in? The title and in Section 1?

CLMN DUDLEY: Yes, the title and Section 1.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Please read the amendment.

CLERK: The amendment shall read as follows: AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION ASKING THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF OHIO TED STRICKLAND TO ISSUE AN IMMEDIATE MORATORIUM TO PREVENT THE DISCONNECTION OF THE GAS AND ELECTRIC UTILITIES AFFECTING CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS RESIDENTS, FROM NOVEMBER 1, 2010 TO MARCH 31st, 2011. And also in Section 1 the amendment shall read, "The Mayor and the Council of the City of Garfield Heights do hereby request The Governor of the State of Ohio. Ted Strickland, to issue a moratorium to prevent the disconnection of gas and electric utilities, from November 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011 in the City of Garfield Heights."

Moved by DUDLEY to AMEND:

AYES: 6

ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes 6-0.

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: 6

ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes 6-0.

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

CLMN DUDLEY: Before I vote, I wanted to say that I believe the reason that we all agree on this right here is because I don't know if you know this? You got the Dominion truck out there cutting utilities off. I mean no matter how cold it is outside they're doing it You got them like sneaking around like thieves in the night. The electric company going into people's yards while they're at work. I seen them and I asked them to wait till the residents come home, clipping off the electricity. And you know the moratorium I wasn't even aware of until maybe two weeks ago that it actually ran out as of last year so no matter who you are they got the right to shut your utilities off and if they shut it off on a Friday night and you don't come home until late Friday your pipes will freeze up and break on your home and you don't have nothing to do until it comes Monday and you're out a lot of money. Plus it's unfair with the economic troubled times and people's joblessness we need this right now and I vote Yes.

AYES: 6

ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes 6-0.

RESOLUTION NO: 07-2010

AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR MARKET DEVELOPMENT GRANT FUNDS FOR THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS MADE AVAILABLE BY THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (ODNR).

Moved by MARINCIC to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: 6

ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes 6-0.

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: 6

ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes 6-0.

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

CLWN MARINCIC: Once again, this grant money will not be used by the city of Garfield Heights. It will be used by a business in Ward 2, Baumann Enterprises, and is not costing the city any money. I vote Yes.

AYES: 6

ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes 6-0.

COMMENTS BY CITIZENS:

PRESIDENT GERACI: We'll now move on to Comments by Citizens. These are the rules. Comments shall be restricted to any problem a citizen has which has previously been submitted to his Councilperson or to the City Hall department directly involved. If the submission of a problem to a City Hall department or a Councilperson is made and there is a lack of service rendered in this regard, the problem may then be presented during the Comments from Citizens at a future meeting. It is the intention of the rule that no request of a first nature be presented on the floor at this time. Comments shall be limited to five minutes and no citizen shall be heard no more than once. I think the young lady wanted to speak?

Carisa Salee, 13402 Christine Avenue. I thought my question had to do with the economic development but I could have been wrong. How much revenue is the city of Garfield Heights losing with each loss of business in City View and how is that affecting or are we losing the revenue or is it just the developer? How does that affect the city?

FINANCE DIRECTOR RICHARD OBERT: You have a very complicated question here. First of all it's just not the city. When you say on the real estate taxes for example, it's the school and the county as well. That's a great loss. I'm just telling you what I heard. I'm not a player in this. The Mayor probably knows more than I do, but I guess through the trustee that the fellow who owns City View (it was in The Plain Dealer) and this was a year ago I paid my last tax bill. So that means the city would get nothing of course. Eventually the bond issue that was floated over there—it has about two years—they would be out of money so they have to find a remedy for the real estate now.

Part 2. When you look at City View and you look at Wal-Mart and you go all the way down, Bed, Bath & Beyond, Jo-Ann's, etc. we were really doing well over there. We had a full year of everybody and we were able to measure it. That revenue was a little over \$640,000.00 we were getting. Now what a lot of people didn't realize not only did they pay the employees' 2%; those corporations had to pay a net profit tax. Sometimes an employee at Wal-Mart would be \$64,000.00 in payroll and \$80,000.00 in profit so that's why the number was so large. We lost all that. They're not paying it. They're not there.

You didn't ask this question but I'll add it. Bridge View? That wonderful big pile of mud we have up there with Aldi's in the middle. A building with no roads to go to. That's sitting and if it goes into bankruptcy you're looking at three or four years without any revenue. But what we lost up there, there were 61 homes paying property taxes to everybody. We lost all that. We kind of get the totals in like last year our losses in real estate were about \$1.2 million. That's quite substantial but it's not just in that one section. It was throughout the whole city. They say it another way. It's in delinquency. Eventually you'll get paid. Nobody knows what year, but eventually they'll be sold. That one up there the TIF was never formed on that, but to answer your question, we lost the revenue. And then there were some companies that Mr. Snider requested we move. Those companies I am well aware were \$300,000.00 we lost with those businesses. They are very successful. So you add the two together and that almost gave you what we lost. We lost \$1,455,000.00 in them two just alone. It's almost about 950.

MS. SALEE: So in addition to that does the city have any viable options of regaining that property back? So that we can get a developer in there that is not going to give the city as many challenges as we've been faced with now and so that we can start getting more businesses back in there? My last question was what was the main problem that caused the revenue deficit in taxes outside of the City View and the homes that we have lost?

FINANCE DIRECTOR RICHARD OBERT: The main loss of revenue it's actually the income tax. If we would have got that revenue in that \$1,945,000.00 gross, we would not have any deficit on our books right now. We'd have had a surplus of about \$60,000.00. Not only that but you look at the number and this is a problem nobody knows the answer, how many companies have downsized and let people go? And if they're not working they're not on the payrolls. That is the balance of what is really going on and especially in manufacturing. So add that but we were aware of the shopping side. We were aware of Bridge View and City View. You get into all the smaller companies and the mom and pops that have closed up—the businesses and its profits tax too. They pay 2% on the payroll profit to RITA, which we get. So it's more than just payroll taxes.

MAYOR VICTOR COLLOVA: Mr. Chairman, let me respond to your first question. City View itself. You have to understand that City View right now because of the developers is now under the control of the Court. The Court has appointed a receiver. That receiver is out of Chicago. That receiver controls everything. He's running the shopping center, so to speak. The city can make suggestions. We can try to

bring ideas forward but we have no control whatsoever of anybody coming in, coming out or anything else. We have no control.

MS. SALEE: OK. That answers my question. Thank you.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you, Ms. Salee. Any other questions?.

David Mays, 8250 Green Drive. Chief, I would like to ask you to ask your officers to please do a better job in policing streets from three o'clock in the morning until six o'clock. I understand they are busy and I wish I could say I wish they weren't but the fact is when you see a car go down the street, ride by a car that you know has been parked there all night, it wasn't just pulled out of a driveway because there's still snow on the windows, and he drives right on by it. Never stops. Now if he's going to a call, he probably shouldn't be on that back street. If he's on that back street on a call, he probably should ride on down the street with his lights on—not his siren. The cell phone was very obvious. I think that if this is happening I think you should do something. They do a great job but in some cases I think they need some directions. Thank you.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you. Any other questions?. Are there any other questions? We'll move on to Miscellaneous. Clmn Dudley?

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

CLMN DUDLEY: I go first tonight, huh?

PRESIDENT GERACI: I'm doing it for the camera's sake.

CLMN DUDLEY: All right. I was happy to see some of the bad houses are coming down in the community that were long overdue to be taken down. I'm glad to see the gentlemen are going to begin filling some of the potholes from when the ground froze up and we need to get these taken care of. Other than that I'm glad and I wish those all a Happy New Year if I didn't get to you I wish you a Happy New Year now. I honestly believe like I said I maintain the faith that we're going to be all right. That's it.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you, Councilman. Clwn Marincic.

CLWN MARINCIC: Mr. McLaughlin, I sent you an e-mail about 99th how it needed to be patched and rolled. Did you get that?

SERVICE DIRECTOR TIM McLAUGHLIN: Yeah, we swept it today. We cleaned up the corners. There was a lot of asphalt around there but that's all that really needed to be done and patched properly. The cold patch is not going to stay. The first time the plows go through it they'll take it out, but yeah, we did do some work.

CLWN MARINCIC: I know exactly what you're talking about. The street is all gravel right now and in horrendous condition but those residents had asked me to see what we could do about it and I appreciate anything you can do.

SERVICE DIRECTOR TIM McLAUGHLIN: We already were there.

CLWN MARINCIC: OK. That's all I have tonight.

CLMN SUSTER: Tim, the welcoming is over. I only have a couple things for you. I know you did this last year when you were here. I think we need to take a look at all those street lights along Turney Road and also Rockside. There's a lot of street lights that are out again. And also the 480 bridge. The west side is all out.

SERVICE DIRECTOR TIM McLAUGHLIN: That's a continual problem. That goes out on to the freeway. The way the electrical is set up we don't have any control over those lights. We have to call a company and fix them. They want us to change the light bulbs but that's an electrical problem. That's why they're all out. It's not just light bulbs all out at the same time. It's been that side of the bridge. The power goes down onto 480. We're at the whim of the State there and we keep. We just had the discussion about the lights. Bryan went out and wrote a lot of lights up. CEI is now requesting that we only put in 10 at a time. We were giving them lists of 60, 70, 80.

CLMN SUSTER: Can we pay them one tenth of the bill we owe them?

SERVICE DIRECTOR TIM McLAUGHLIN: I just have to go by. I was in contact with their government rep here requesting that we put in ten at a time so every couple days I'm putting in 10 more. I started doing that last week. I think there's like 70 of them. We'll check them again in a few weeks but we did have a count and we're trying to get them fixed.

CLMN SUSTER: One more thing, we never had the problem with Waste Management nor BFI. There's a lot of stuff on the streets. I'm not just saying around my house. Throughout the city. On Turney, everywhere. I don't know whether a pop bottle falls out somewhere and they just don't bother to pick it up but there's a lot of stuff around and come summer time somebody's going to have to be cleaning that up. We never had that problem with Waste Management and BFI.

SERVICE DIRECTOR TIM McLAUGHLIN: I will talk with J&J.

CLMN SUSTER: That's all I have. Thank you.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you. Councilman Vaughn.

CLMN VAUGHN: I have nothing to say, Mr. President. I would make a suggestion that we adjourn this meeting. I make a motion.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Roll call.

AYES: 6

ABSENT: 1

PRESIDENT GERACI: Our next Council Meeting will be February 8th at seven o'clock. Meeting adjourned. Thank you for coming.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:25 p.m.

APPROVED:

Frank J. Geraci, Jr.
President of Council

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Barbara Molin
Clerk of Council