

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS, OHIO

Monday, June 8, 2015

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:00 p.m. by Council President Joseph Suster.

INVOCATION BY: Councilman Michael Nenadovich

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Roll call please.

ROLL CALL: **PRESENT:** Council Members Dudley, Marincic, Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn

READING AND DISPOSAL OF MINUTES:

CLWN MARINCIC: Mr. Chairman, I make a motion we excuse Clmn Dudley from the meeting this evening.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: He will be here. He's going to be a little late.

CLWN MARINCIC: We do need to excuse him.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: On the motion made by Mrs. Marincic to excuse Clmn Dudley, all those in favor signify by saying Yea. All opposed?

AYES: Marincic, Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn

ABSENT: Dudley

PRESIDENT SUSTER: On the reading and disposal of the Minutes of the Meeting of Monday, May 11, 2015 and the Special Council Meeting of May 26, 2015.

CLWN MARINCIC: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to make a motion that we accept the Minutes from the Special Meeting of Council from May 26th and the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council from May 11th as presented.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: On the motion made by Mrs. Marincic to accept the Minutes of May 11, 2015 and the Special Meeting of May 26, 2015, all in favor signify by saying Yea. All opposed?

AYES: Marincic, Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn

ABSENT: Dudley

It passes with 6 Yes votes.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO COUNCIL: None.

LEGISLATION OUT OF COMMITTEE:

CLWN MARINCIC: Mr. Chairman, I make a motion we waive the 72-Hour Rule on Ordinances 26 and 27 and place them on the evening agenda.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: On the motion made by Mrs. Marincic to place Ordinance 26 and 27, waiving the 72 Hour Rule, all in favor signify by saying Yea. All opposed?

AYES: Marincic, Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn

ABSENT: Dudley

It passes with 6 Yes votes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None.

REPORTS OF THE MAYOR AND DIRECTORS:

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Mayor, do you have a report for us this evening?

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I do. I first want to start the report by talking about a program that we just completed in partnership with the schools and the police and our Resource Center. It was the Gun Safety Program. It was for 3rd Graders. We had our Ruth Pollack here along with Heather DiPenti, Garfield Heights Police Officer, put on a program for the 3rd Graders about safety around guns. They came back. They said it was very successful. Many of the children asked quite a few questions. The surprising thing came back to me. How many of those 3rd Graders said they had at their house guns just laying around on the table and on chairs, etc. So hopefully this program will help teach them about the safety, how to stay away from those guns, etc. but I want to thank Heather and Ruth for putting on a great program. I want to thank the school and of course the Chief for allowing this to go on. It was a great program.

The other thing I wanted to talk about is the three road projects that are going on as scheduled. We have the Turney Road Project. That of course is under way. We all know about that. The Multi-Street Project will be starting very shortly and then we've got the city's project that we are putting together with that \$2 million that we're borrowing and when you look at this we're probably by the end of this year having between 25 and 30 streets resurfaced, which is really going to be a great thing for the residents and hopefully we can continue that on as long as the funds allow us in the next few years.

With that said I'm going to get into tonight's legislation. Ordinance 25 is a re-signing of that anti-poaching agreement that we have with the County. This is protocol if someone, one of our businesses reaches out to another city to put residents in that city that city will get a hold of us, tell us about it so we have an opportunity to talk to the business. The same way if somebody is coming into the city of Garfield Heights we will reach out to them and let them know. This is something that we signed a couple of years ago and we're going to re-sign it.

Resolution 11 is about the Acting Finance Director becoming the Finance Director. I just wanted to say that we had interviews with several candidates. Barb Biro, our Assistant Finance Director, was without a doubt the best candidate. We had two finance directors that have been around for 20 years. Probably together they have 50 years in the business. They actually did the interviewing along with Tim Riley and Noreen Kuban and she was the choice. I'm very pleased. At the time Barb has taken over for Ron. After Ron passed away she has done a phenomenal job. She has followed Ron's protocol very well. She learned how to tell me No just about every

time I asked for something so she certainly learned well. I think she's going to do a great job for the city. There's no doubt in my mind and I urge the Council to certainly pass that.

We have Ordinance 26 and 27 that Mr. Riley, believe it or not, is going to get into in his report so I'm not going to take that opportunity away from him.

With that, Mr. Chairman, you have my report.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Thank you, Mayor. One question. Was that class with the guns was that only for the school children of Garfield Heights school system or was that also where the other schools that are in Garfield Heights were they allowed to have that also?

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: We could certainly set it up for the other schools. This one was set up through our Resource Center and the Garfield Heights School Board so it was done at the 3rd Grades throughout Garfield city schools.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: I think that if we offered it to the kids in Garfield Heights School System we should offer it to all the schools.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: I would be more than happy to have that happen. This is a program that came to me and I was very pleased with what they did.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: OK. Thank you very much. Are there any other questions of the Mayor on his report? We'll move to Law Director, Tim Riley. Do you have a report for us this evening?

LAW DIRECTOR TIM RILEY: Thank you Mr. President, actually I don't have a report tonight, but Ms. Kuban couldn't be here so she asked me to comment on Ordinances 26 and 27. Ordinance 26 has to deal with vacant lots we get through the Land Bank. They were properties that had been torn down and more than likely they will be sold to the adjacent property owners. Ordinance 27 is the same thing. We're acquiring the Ceo's property and we've got some good plans for that. We're hoping at some point in time the MetroParks will take over that and build a visitors center there along the trail. So that could work out real well. I did not realize until Noreen told me that that's an historic property because of how old the building is. So that would be interesting.

She also wanted me to mention that she's having (she's giving me all this stuff to talk about. Come on now. You know me. I don't give very long reports. What are you doing to me?) So she's having a Fair Housing Seminar some time in June for residential property owners to learn about the Fair Housing rules and laws. She said that the date will be announced on the Website so keep that in mind.

With that you have Noreen Kuban's report.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Thanks Tim. Anybody have any questions of Tim on Noreen's report? There being none we'll move on to Police Chief Bob Sackett.

POLICE CHIEF ROBERT SACKETT: Thank you. I just want to remind everybody that there is still time to sign up for Safety Town. There's two sessions starting Monday, June 22nd and Monday June 29th. You can sign up at the Rec Center. It's \$30.00 and it's for kids 5 and 6 years old. It kind of also ties in with what the Mayor said about the safety program about the guns specifically. The big safety program they put on. They touch on those sorts of things. It's more

than just how to cross the street. They touch on many things. In the past it's been well worthwhile and well-received so we hope a lot of kids will sign up.

I also want to recognize Boy Scout Troop 361 out of St. Therese. The Troopmaster, Joe Roda, called me a few months ago and his troop was looking for some service to do, not out of a requirement; just out of a sense of what the Boy Scouts are about. So we tossed around a few ideas and we came up with our parking lot needed repainted as far as some of the lines and the car numbers. We set a date for this past Saturday and as you could imagine I was a little concerned with a bunch of teen age kids with paint brushes, rollers, etc. But let me tell you what. They did a fine job. They worked their butts off for three hours. There was probably eight kids and a lot of parental supervision and they did a nice job. It really looks good. A lot of the guys even commented on who did that? And they couldn't believe young men did it - and one young lady, I might add. So I just want to thank them and show my appreciation. Troop 361 out of St. Therese.

With that you have my report.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Thank you, Chief. Are there any questions of the Chief on his report? There being none, we'll move on to Service Director Tim McLaughlin.

SERVICE DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR TIM McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. President. The last week we spent the whole week working on storm damage from the storm over a week ago. It seems that from Granger Road to Garfield Blvd. probably took the biggest brunt of the storm where the most problems were with trees down, branches down. We drove through the whole city and there was some in different places but the boulevard area seemed to take it the most. Warner Road became a huge problem. The water got underneath the pavement and went down the hill and just blew out everything. We spent probably five hours on Saturday night just trying to get the street clear so that we could open it back up at least two lanes to get traffic going again. We worked on the patching all last week and put 71 tons down on it. In April we started with that main street first was 95 tons so it's a huge amount. We did the best we could with that street. It needs to be repaved. I've talked to Dave about it. Dave has put in for that street to be done and we got to take a look at it. It got turned down once I guess. I don't know how, but it did. Anyhow we're done with 99% of the hot patch in the residential area of the city. I have about six streets Rockside Road through Valley Lane from Valley View to Rockside. Valley Lane, Chaincraft, 96th on Granger and again trying to get back on Turney Road as we go along to try to do the best they can to secure it until it eventually gets repaved. With the construction up there we can't get into that part of it but wherever they move from we go back and try to patch it. We lost a whole week last week because of this storm stuff and being stuck on Warner Road, I was hoping to be done with all this already. Hopefully things were all closed today because since they said rain they didn't bring their employees and we deal with a couple different companies. They were all closed so we lost another day, but hopefully in about another week we should be through all the city one time and there's still a few areas we have to go back to and take a look but I had to get the most holes patched. We've already used 1,600 tons of patch, which is over 100 more than last year. Some of the things that I'm looking at are Valley Lane and Chaincraft, etc. Then we make it to 1,700/1,800 by the time it's done. These streets getting repaved will help us out immensely. Like I said before when you have eight years that you don't repave just one on average they need to do at least one street a Ward. Times seven Wards there's 56 streets that have not been touched and they don't get better because we didn't fix them but like the Mayor said we've had our discussions on it and hopefully we can get something going positive to get back and catch some of these streets.

On May 16th we will have our shred program down at the garage. It was three hours. We took in 4,500 pounds in three hours which was lined up. I was down there and people were lined up. We will have it again in September. The County sets it up with us so we will have it again for those that missed it on September 12th if I remember right.

With that you have my report.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Thank you, Mr. McLaughlin. Are there any questions of Mr. McLaughlin on his report?

CLMN NENADOVICH: Yes, Tim, I'd like to thank you publicly for the quick response you did on Warner Road. The tree that was blocking Garfield Blvd. within 24 hours you had us up and running. Our residents really appreciate it. Thanks, Tim.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: OK. Are there any other questions of Mr. McLaughlin on his report? There being none we'll move on to Parks and Recreation Director Bob Dobies.

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR BOB DOBIES: Mr. President and Council Members, good evening. Just a short report tonight. The pool will open this Saturday, June 13th at 1:00 p.m. We have extended hours for our signups this week. We'll be open until 8:00 p.m. every evening so for the adventurous please come and sign up for all programs, not only swimming. T-ball is half way through its season and softball is in the second week of games so hopefully Mother Nature will be kind to us along with the pool especially on Opening Day.

Just the last thing I wanted to touch briefly on. There seems to be a concern with residents coming to sign up, especially for children and I want to clear the air here. Birth certificates and proof of residency. We passed an ordinance about 1.5 years ago. Council was good enough to take into consideration that birth certificates are required. We have a changing society today and liability is key. In other words, we need to know who has custody of that child so in case of an emergency if we need to get a hold of the right party. We know that today many families are divorced, separated, I don't know what all the legalities are but some have custody, some do not. Maybe Grandmas got custody, etc. So these are the different things that we go through and I had people coming in saying I've been part of the system for years, you have the information in the computer. Yes we do, but things changed. They may have changed yesterday and we don't know about it but we're expected to know. So that information is important that we take proper registration, etc. proof of residency. You are going to find this hard to believe, I know, but we have people moving out of this city that still have houses and they expect to pay Resident Fees because they own a house here. So what I tell them when they come in I say where do you live and where did you kids go to school. That will tell you where your residency is. They say Parma or North Olmsted now or Brecksville, or whatever. Well we still pay taxes here and I thank them for that, but on the same token is that you're not a resident here. But they expect to pay resident fees. We've caught a few. Not many or we've caught them late in the city and we will remind them of it, OK? So a lot of times they'll come in and have an attitude to the girls at the window and I am trying to send the message to thwart some of that off. When we explain it because all of that information is on the flyers, on the Website we explain if they call. This way they know to come with the proper identification and whatever the case may be and the registration process goes pretty smooth. Thank you. That's my report.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Thank you, Mr. Dobies. Are there any questions of Mr. Dobies on his report? Are there any questions of Mr. Dobies on his report? There being none. Next is our City Engineer David Krock. Do you have a report for us this evening?

CITY ENGINEER DAVID KROCK: Yes, just one item. As a reminder the Granger Road Hill is closed. Nighttime closure only from 7 p.m. till 5 a.m. That is all week and ends on Saturday. This is to do some storm sewer work on the hill. Just want to pass that along to anyone who is not aware.

That's my report.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: All right. Are there any questions of Mr. Krock on his report? Mr. Glenn.

CLMN GLENN: I have some concerns. Residents called me up. Is there any date on the County regards to flooding?

PRESIDENT SUSTER: That was not in his report.

CLMN GLENN: I'd ask it at a later time.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Under Miscellaneous Business you can do that. Thank you. Are there any other questions to Mr. Krock on his report? There being none we will move on to Acting Finance Director, Barb Biro.

ACTING FINANCE DIRECTOR BARBARA BIRO: Thank you, Mr. President. Just to add on to the Mayor's reporting in regards to our 2015 Paving Program. This afternoon we had a preliminary meeting with our representatives from the bank. Everything looks positive. The sale of the \$2 million note is to begin tomorrow at 10:00 a.m. It's scheduled from 10:00 a.m. until 11:30 but they are pretty optimistic that the sale of the note will be done within an hour. So by 11:00 we should have an idea of the note's being sold and they are very positive about being close to the yield of 1.25% and the coupon rate of 1.625 which was the information given to Council at the Special Meeting. Once the note is completed we should receive the funds in our bank on Tuesday June 23rd and proceed with the 2015 Paving Program at that time. Thank you.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Thank you, Barb. Are there any questions of Barb on her report? Are there any questions of Barb on her report? There being none we'll move on to Social Service Director Kathy Rush-Parssons. Do you have a report for us this evening?

SOCIAL SERVICES DIRECTOR KATHY RUSH-PARSSONS: Yes, I do. Thank you, Mr. Suster. The Garfield Heights Food Pantry Program received a \$500.00 donation from the Swine Sisters, which is a non-profit social group of ladies who promote fund raising with the purpose of helping others and making up change in the surrounding communities. These ladies get together. They have a good time, but in doing so they raise money. So they have donated to the Food Bank before and we are very grateful and I wanted to publicly thank them for their generosity and support over the years.

Also just an announcement. The Senior Center will be hosting our Annual Senior Picnic at Klima Gardens on East 71st in Cuyahoga Heights on Thursday July 23rd from 9 a.m. till 2 p.m. Tickets are on sale June 29th through July 15th. The cost is \$4.00. That does include your lunch. For more information or to register for transportation you can call the Senior Center.

That is all I have.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: OK. Does anybody have any questions of Mrs. Parssons on her report? Does anybody have any questions of Mrs. Parssons on her report? There being none wed move on to Building Commissioner Bill Wervey. Do you have a report this evening?

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR NOREEN KUBAN: Absent.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER BILL WERVEY: I don't have anything new to report this evening, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: OK. Thank you. Wed move on to Comments by Citizens on tonight's agenda. Would the Clerk please read the rules?

CLERK: Comments shall be strictly limited to brief statements not to exceed five minutes with comments limited to legislation on the current evening's agenda. No citizen shall speak more than once.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Is there anyone that would like to make a comment on tonight's agenda?

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PRESIDENT SUSTER: There being none wed move on to Committee Reports. Are there any Committee Reports this evening?

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

PRESIDENT SUSTER: There being none wed move on to Ordinances and Resolutions beginning with Ordinance 25-2015. Would the Clerk please read the title?

ORDINANCE NO. 25-2015

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO RE-ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS WITH CUYAHOGA COUNTY FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEVELOPING AN ANTI-POACHING PROTOCOL.

Moved by BURKE to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: Burke, Vaughn, Marincic, Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster

ABSENT: Dudley

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: Burke, Vaughn, Marincic, Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster

ABSENT: Dudley

Motion to WAIVE RULE 24:

AYES: Burke, Vaughn, Marincic, Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster

ABSENT: Dudley

PRESIDENT SUSTER: On its adoption, beginning with Clmn Burke.

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

AYES: Burke, Vaughn, Marincic, Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster

ABSENT: Dudley

CLMN VAUGHN: Mr. Chairman. At this time could we allow Mr. Dudley to take his seat please?

PRESIDENT SUSTER: On the motion made by Mr. Vaughn to let Mr. Dudley take his seat, all in favor signify by saying Yes. All opposed?

AYES: Marincic, Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn

ABSENT: Dudley

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Ordinance 25-2015 passes with 6 Yes votes.

ORDINANCE NO.:26-2015

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY LAND REUTILIZATION CORPORATION FOR THE CONYEYANCE OF TEN (10) VACANT LOTS.

Moved by VAUGHN to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: Vaughn, Dudley, Marincic, Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: Vaughn, Dudley, Marincic, Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke

Motion to WAIVE RULE 24:

AYES: Vaughn, Dudley, Marincic, Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke

PRESIDENT SUSTER: On its adoption, beginning with Clmn Vaughn.

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

AYES: Vaughn, Dudley, Marincic, Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Ordinance 26-2015 passes with 7 Yes votes.

ORDINANCE NO.:27-2015

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY LAND REUTILIZATION CORPORATION TO ACQUIRE THE REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 4678 WARNER RD.

Moved by NENADOVICH to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, Marincic

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, Marincic

PRESIDENT SUSTER: On its adoption, beginning with Clmn Nenadovich.

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

CLWN MARINCIC: Before I vote, I'd like to let those in the audience know the reason we were interested in acquiring this property is that hopefully at some time in the future we could get the MetroParks to open up a Visitors Trail over there and that's our purpose in acquiring it. I vote Yes.

AYES: Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, Marincic

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Ordinance 27-2015 passes with 7 Yes votes.

RESOLUTION NO. 11-2015

AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF BARBARA BIRO TO ACT AS THE FINANCE DIRECTOR FOR THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS, OHIO, DURING THE PERIOD COMMENCING JUNE 8, 2015, TO SERVE AT THE PLEASURE OF THE MAYOR.

Moved by SUSTER to CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, Marincic, Nenadovich, Glenn

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, Marincic, Nenadovich, Glenn

PRESIDENT SUSTER: On its adoption, beginning with me.

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

PRESIDENT SUSTER: I, myself, would just like to say congratulations to Barb. I know she'd do a fine job. She was taught by a great person. I vote yes.

CLMN BURKE: Before I vote, I would also like to echo those same comments and say congratulations to you as well, Barb. I feel confident that you are going to be taking that over after Ron. I think we won't miss a beat. I vote Yes.

CLMN VAUGHN: Before I vote I just want to say I have the utmost confidence in you. With your credentials, etc. you will definitely be a plus for the city. I vote Yes.

CLWN MARINCIC: I would like to add and echo my fellow Council Members' comments and add on a personal note you're going to be wonderful. There's no doubt in my mind you're the perfect person for the position and you're going to succeed. Just remember to say no and that Ron is watching you. I happily vote Yes.

CLMN NENADOVICH: Barb, welcome aboard. Like everybody else I have the utmost confidence you're going to do a good job. I vote Yes.

CLMN GLENN: I, too, want to wish you welcome on board. Barb, you've got a very important job to keep this city above water. It's going to be some trials and hard times, but we'll get through it and I know you'll be right here to help us out and do your best to help us out. Thank you. I vote Yes.

AYES: Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley, Marincic, Nenadovich, Glenn

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Congratulations, Barb. Resolution 11-2015 passes with 7 Yes votes. Before we move on, Barb, do you have few words you'd like to say?

FINANCE DIRECTOR BARBARA BIRO: Thank you. Mayor, President of Council, Members of Council and my fellow Directors. I want to thank you for this wonderful opportunity. I am no stranger to municipal government. It has been a part of my family since I was a child. I began my career in numbers by being a bookkeeper to help pay for my college. After graduating from Cleveland State with a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting I've worked in public accounting, auditing, small business and assistant to a CFO and also as a Clerk/Treasurer in a neighboring community.

Five years ago I was hired as an Administrative Manager for the city. Through good times and hard times I enjoyed working and learning from my friend and mentor, Ron Tomola. Although Ron is gone the wisdom he shared with me and the confidence he instilled in me remains. I look forward to my new role as a Finance Director and the challenges ahead and I just once again want to say thank you.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS BY CITIZENS

PRESIDENT SUSTER: We will move on to our Comments by Citizens. Would the Clerk please read the rules?

CLERK: Comments shall be restricted to any problem a citizen has which has previously been submitted to his/her Councilperson or to the city hall department directly involved. If 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 Comments from Citizens at a future meeting. It is the intention of this rule that no request of a first nature is presented on the floor at this time. Comments shall be limited to five minutes. No citizen shall be heard more than once.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Is there anyone that would like to make any comments this evening?

David Mays, 8250 Green Drive. I'm going to pass some pictures out for people to look at. I would like to say that these pictures are from another city, but actually they're not. They're from Garfield Heights. In fact they're next door to my house. I have contacted the Building Department at least three times this year on this house for the grass. Weeds and grass growing out of the gutters. Gas line bending over. I was informed at one time that they didn't know if they could do anything because there was people living there. I found out that is not true. I would suggest that if the Building Department is going to answer a question, if they don't know they say they don't know, but will get back and let you know what the answer is. That doesn't happen.

Last year I called them on the same property. Same problem- weeds, grass growing out of the gutters. The grass on the side of this house is almost four feet high. They're weeds. The weeds next to the fence, which is my fence, is over four feet high. The grass in the front yard is about two feet high. The gas light pole I complained about it to the Building Department and to the gas company. I was there the day the man from the gas company came out. He come out and looked at it, posted a sign on the door, never checked to see if the gas was turned off. I turned it off. There is a real problem. This is my opinion. When I see people from the Parks and Recreation cutting grass in a park. The grass is about that high, yet we've got houses in this city of Garfield with three to four foot weeds around the house--in the front yards and they're not cut. That's my opinion. I think it's wrong, but I've been told that I'm wrong a lot of times. Thank you for your time.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Mr. Mays, do you have the address of that house?

MR. MAYS: I'd give it to you in private.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: OK. Thank you.

MR. MAYS: It's right next door to my house.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: I'm not happy about seeing that either but let me tell you about the process. We have about 850 vacant homes from Ward 1 through Ward 7. We are on our second time throughout the city to cut the grass on many of these. If it's a vacant house and we get a Court Order then that can be handled by the Court Community Service. If it's just a regular house whether it's occupied or not, once that house is posted we will cut it as we come through. Are you saying that house is vacant?

MR. MAYS: It is now. It has been vacant for about two weeks, OK? I did know the people that owned the house. In fact I gave the name to the Building Department, where they lived and their address. I've talked to him several times. He was never contacted. They have never paid. The people have never paid rental inspections and it's been rented out for at least eight years. The Building Department knew about that too.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Let me say this. You say the house has been vacant for two weeks. One of the hardest things for the city to discover is when a house is vacant because people sometimes just leave. It takes us a while to catch up on it. There's times when we know immediately. There's times we don't know for months. That's just because of the process we live in. If somebody just leaves their house, unless their neighbor calls and tells us their neighbor moved out it takes us a while to catch on to it. But if in fact that house has been turned in by you and the Building Department has decided (and I'd let the Building Department talk) not to cite it then I have a problem with that. But usually these houses are cited, they end up going to Court and it's not an easy process. It's a tough process because what happens is we come out, we cite the house, we have to give them so much time to fix the whatever the citation is for and at that point in time if they don't do it we'd turn it into Court. Then the Court has to set a date. They then bring the people in. It's a long process. Usually the people that live next door say it's been a week already and nobody's done a thing. But it goes through a process and in many cases it's the Court if they're backlogged or whatever the story is it just takes longer, but Bill, do you have a response to this house?

BUILDING COMMISSIONER BILL WERVEY: Yes, we weren't aware that the house was vacant and when we heard from Mr. Mays that the grass was getting long; we posted the house at that point. This is not the fault of Parks and Recreation because it was not on their list. But when we became aware of it from Mr. Mays, the house did get cited and as Parks & Rec gets to that area I'm sure that it will be cut. This has been communicated to Mr. Mays. If Mr. Mays was out there looking at this he would have seen the note on the front door that told them they had to cut the grass.

MR. MAYS: That is correct. There is a note on the front door. I complained about it three months ago. It took you three months to put a note on the door? Something's wrong someplace and I did complain about it before I talked to you the last time and I was told.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER BILL WERVEY: I don't want to get into specifics here, but we have communicated about this and you're aware of the process. It will get cut.

MR. MAYS: It has been posted now, but three months ago when the Building Department knew about it nothing was done last year or when the Building Department knew about the grass, etc. because you came by last year and looked at it and said it was horrible.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Mr. Mays, your time is up.

MR. MAYS: Thank you.

CLMN DUDLEY: Here are your pictures, Mr. Mays

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Dave, you want your pictures?

MR. MAYS: No, you can burn those.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Is there anyone else?

Norman Wells, 4804 East 88th Street. Good evening, Council, Mayor and Directors. I've been a resident at that address for over 37 years now. I'm a long time resident. I was born and raised in Garfield Heights. This is my home. I have complained to Debbie Sarnowski and to Glenn and I believe I talked with Mr. Wervey this morning about the property that is built next to my house. They built two properties eight to 10 years ago and before it was an empty lot. When it rained the rainwater would collect in the empty lot. The city built a retaining wall out of dirt there so the water would be retained in this lot. Since they built the two houses my back property is eroding and I have pictures from before and after and it's like something has to be done. I don't know what, but I don't want to have to go to a lawyer to get things done that way. OK? I don't know if it's the builder's problem or if it's the city's problem. When it was an empty lot my property was fine. Now that it isn't it's terrible. Which way should I start? *(Mr. Wells handed out photos.)* This is my property now from when it rained last time. I understand that it was a heavy rain. We get this two to three times a year, but the problem is my back yard's washing away. OK? I've talked to my insurance man. He's going to come out, but he says the problem was there beforehand. That it's a city problem. I have pictures before what the water used to do going onto the lot.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Dave, you want to comment on that or not? Or you want to get together with him?

CITY ENGINEER DAVID KROCK: I'm not familiar with this property. I'm sorry.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: OK.

MR. WELLS: As I say it's been brought between two Council people before and I have talked to Glenn about it today and I went to the Building Department because Debbie Sarnowski told me when she sat on the Garfield Heights Land Board or Land Bank that in the writings on that that property was said that they could not build on it. I asked Mr. Wervey for the information if he could find it. He couldn't. I talked to Debbie Sarnowski about it. She's looking to see if she has it. The information has to be in there somewhere. I know it goes back to 1994 which is 21 years but shouldn't the information be somewhere?

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: If I can, Mr. Chairman, this obviously affects more than just your house. There are other houses there. Correct? This only started happening since that property was built?

MR. WELLS: As you can see from the older pictures the problem has always been there. But the problem was with the empty lot next door the water would collect in that empty lot. I seen eight feet of water in that lot. Where's the water going to go now? It's eroding away my property. The gentleman next door said that when they built that house they bundled it off from my property. Now against his house because that's where the most water abates to, it is down where the whole side wall of his house is showing. There's no more property there. The back part to that is all washed out. I'm frustrated.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: We will send the Engineer out to take look at it. I don't know what it is and I'm sure it happens in all the cities, but for whatever reason Garfield Heights never gets just a little snow or a little rain. We get three torrential downpours and we had Turney Road flooded over, we had Broadway flooded over, Warner Road flooded over. It was an unbelievable rainstorm in a short period of time. I'm not trying to use an excuse. I'm just saying that there's a

lot of people that are frustrated like you, but I will have the Engineer take a look at that and see if there's something we could do.

MR. WELLS: All right. I appreciate that.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Did anybody get his address?

BUILDING COMMISSIONER BILL WERVEY: I got his address. I was at the property this afternoon.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: As long as Dave knows where to go.

MR. WELLS: All right. Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: All right. Take care. Is there anyone else that would like to make a comment this evening?

Cheryl Sarapa, 5262 East 105th Street. The reason my husband and I are here tonight. We spoke to Mr. Glenn the other evening in light of the torrential downpour. The reason that we're asking for help tonight is because we flooded again for the third time in 12 months. I'm a lifelong resident of Garfield Heights, but the last time we had flooding had to be about 20 years ago. Something must have happened in the last year or so to create more flooding in our yard or in my basement and my neighbor's basement that didn't happen before. When other people go out for the evening they're able to relax and know that they're going to be safe. We have no idea what we're going to be up against when we get home after a major rainstorm. I contacted the County. We've had our drains snaked out. My husband has cleaned the drains, cleaned the gutters, we've been responsible home owners. When I spoke to Mr. Glenn he told me that the Council and the Mayor and the city everybody knows about the issues, but there's not enough money to fix the problem. Well the thing is that this isn't just about inconvenience. This isn't just about mud and mess and loss of work and physical labor. This is about our health, our safety and our own home and I'm dealing with raw sewage coming up into my basement and that's just not right. The excuse can't be it rained a lot. I can't imagine in the last 20 years that we haven't had a heavy rain. What I'm asking is for help. I don't know what the right answer is. All I want is that somebody stands up and does what's right rather than pointing fingers and saying that it's not our problem, it's the County. I reached out to the County. Our storm drains in our street are blocked. The city claims they're going to clean it because they don't want to pay the County to do it. The County came out within 20 minutes when I called them that Saturday night. I've contacted them. They came out in 20 minutes. It was 10:30 at night, but yet they came out to try to help us. We had already cleaned up the basement. We had already gotten the fans and I had already bleached the floor on my hands and knees, but the city has yet to tell us when they're going to come and clean the storm drains. But the bad part of that is that I got an excuse from the person at the Service Department is that well, Mrs. Sarapa, it's better to have the water stuck in the street and not draining than in the lines. To me there's got to be something wrong underneath the sewer or underneath the street because the water was coming up into my house and I know it's coming up on 102nd too because we walked the other night and we heard the next day somebody with their blowers going and their shop vacs going. This is a problem and all I'm asking is for a little help. I don't really care whose problem it is. We just want to be safe and I don't think that's wrong to ask that I don't have to be afraid to go out at night when the forecast is calling for a heavy rain.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: If I may, Mr. Chairman, Cheryl, let me take a couple of issues. First off, when you say it's the County's problem or the city's problem and the city is not doing anything but the County came out, I'm happy that the County came out as quick as they did. We pay them to do that. Instead of the city doing that we pay the County to do that so if we didn't pay them to do it you wouldn't have saw them. That's not a knock to the County, but I'm saying that is what we do because they have the expertise to handle that kind of work better than what we can do. So we pay them to do that.

The other part of this is, Dave, is this a part of the 102nd project? 105th?

CITY ENGINEER DAVID KROCK: No, this is just upstream of there. This would be a different area. Different problem.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: OK. Just so you know that we do have that problem on 102nd Street. We are working on that problem. We actually had people out there today working and there's an agreement actually legislation has to come out because some of the problem's on the city and we're going to pay dearly rightfully so, but some of the problem is on the residents and we had a meeting with those residents from 102nd and they agreed that they would pay their part of it. It was very good. We have not talked to everybody. We will get out and try to get a look at 105th to see if there's anything similar we can do, but yours isn't an isolated problem. We are working on it. We really are. If you talk to people from 102nd I know they're not happy but they also know that we are working on it. It's not a quick process but it is a process that we're involved in.

MRS. SARAPA: OK. Thank you.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: You're welcome. Is there anyone else that would like to make a comment this evening?

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Before you get started, Mr. Chairman, if I may? There's another response I wanted to make and I forgot. The water that stays in the street, the reason that they responded it's better in the street is because that water comes from hydro brakes. These hydro brakes were put in specifically to keep the water in the street; not to go into the basements. So we have flooding throughout city and because of that flooding it's stopping a lot of basements from getting flooded. So believe it or not that is a good thing. It really is. If the Chairman does not mind you can come back up and respond.

MRS. SARAPA: When we went to look at the storm drain there was mud. There was only a gap about that much from the storm drain grate to the layer of mud. In that case it was not a hydro brake thing. It was blocked. So the city did tell me that we are on a list for a clean out, but that evening the water was coming up through the manholes about that far and at that point we looked at each other and said oh, no, we got to get downstairs. So it was a blockage.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: I'm sure that that has to be cleaned out. That certainly doesn't help but even with that cleaned when the rain comes that hard those hydro brakes will force the water into the street. Believe me that's a good thing. You don't want those hydro brakes gone or you will be up here with many of your neighbors, complaining. All right? Thank you.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Yes Sir, please state your name and address.

Avery Johnson, 5256 East 102nd Street. Mayor, City Council, again I understand that the city is working on the issue. I think me and Mr. Glenn go round and round about this every month

about this time of year. Maam, me and my family been dealing with this flooding issue since 2004 when I moved here. So if you think that this is a slow process? I purchased my home for \$109,000.00. Now it's reduced to \$88,000.00. I invested \$50,000.00 into it, renovating the basement as well as the upstairs areas, bathrooms, master bathroom and so when you talk about cost and frustration you're looking at an individual that is extremely frustrated. You're also looking at about 20 other neighbors on the street that are extremely frustrated. What is frustrating is lack of little or no information as to where the process is or what we're going to do to address the individuals on that street and their problems. Yes, we are 102nd Street and we would pay the additional cost to fix the problem. Most of us already have sump pumps in our homes. Most of us already have backflows in our homes. Of the original people that lived on the street 30 years ago some thought the sewer lines were too small and the water drained off underneath or come off our roofs could not handle the capacity of water that was coming to that area. Yet we got a solution study here. I talked to my City Councilman and he tells me we're still waiting on the study to be finalized. How long does it take to get the study done? We're still waiting on somebody at the County. Who is that somebody? Who are these engineers? Who are these people? We have a right to know that information. What are we waiting on? Everybody talks about we want to work hand in hand. Yeah, we do, but just like this young lady was saying here, me and my wife was in Indiana. Then we came back from Indiana and took off on a flight to Atlanta, Georgia and everything left we had to worry about what is the weather like in Ohio. We called a neighbor and he was telling us the weekend before this the storm came, Hey Jay you better get home. I had to leave off of a vacation to come home to make sure that everything's up high so it does not continue to be damaged. This is not just Mr. Glenn's Ward that's beginning to have this problem. As you can see that problem is exacerbating itself to other communities. It's going to get worse if we don't come up with some type of overall solution. That's why you're elected. It ain't just Glenn's problem. Everybody got to come and help Mr. Glenn to address this issue because Glenn can't do it by himself and neither can the neighbors over on 102nd Street. This is a Garfield Heights problem. It must be resolved.

Just the other day a gentleman comes across the street just bought the house across the street from me and what did he say? I came home the other day, Mr. Johnson, do you get water in your basement? I said they didn't disclose to you that these homes on this street attain water in the basement? He said no. This guy told me the realtor said that it was dry. I said how much water did you get? Three feet. This is extremely frustrating that I cleaned up two feet of water the other day out of my basement. It's becoming. I know you're looking at your time. Don't worry. I'm going to be done here in a second. It is becoming a health issue. The mold that continuously comes into the house. I was to the doctor the other day. He was telling me Mr. Johnson, you're allergic to mold. We have got to come as a city and face this problem. I know Mayor you're trying your best to work on it but we need additional information sometimes. These proep are debunking up the system that is holding it right back from helping us get this resolved through a grant or program we need to come up with for the people. I'm willing to do that but I'm not sitting quietly. I'll go to the State or anybody. I can scream to the top of my roof of my house, look I live here. I want to stay here.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Your time is up, Sir.

MR. JOHNSON: I appreciate it, Mr. Suster.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: You're more than welcome.

CLWN MARINCIC: Mr. Chairman, I make a motion we give Mr. Avery a couple more minutes if you need it.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: On the motion to give Mr. Johnson more time, how much time did you want to give?

CLWN MARINCIC: Two more minutes.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: All in favor of giving two more minutes all in favor signify by saying Yea. All opposed?

AYES: Marincic, Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley

MR. JOHNSON: All I want to say and I'd be done here, like most people throughout the day cutting my grass, enjoying my lot and I was saying to myself do you really want to go and scream and holler at the City Council? Really I don't. I'm not even mad at the Mayor because the Mayor didn't cause this problem. He just inherited it. But it's the waiting. I been waiting since 2004. I heard from Mayor Longo at a City Council meeting where he brought in all the residents from 102nd Street and told us that the problem was those breakers down the street. That once the water closes that water has no place else to go because the whole sewer line and the water rain off is overran and that problem is consistent. So we had the smoke test done and everyone was telling us come on in in April and we're going to show you what our thoughts are. We got them. We got the results. And this is not going to go away. As you can see there's other people joining in that fray. I'm just saying how much longer do we got to wait before we get some answers? I saw on that back of the plan where it says this may take years. How much longer can I wait for my health to be affected if I wait for years? What am I supposed to do? What is this lady supposed to do? What are all those homeowners on 102nd street supposed to wait?

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Mr. Chairman, If I may? First off you probably have every right to speak the way you did tonight because we certainly know the problems that you been facing. I tried to talk to you about this before and I knew when it rained that hard Saturday that I thought I would see the whole crew here again, rightfully so, but I was sure I was going to see you, Avery, and I don't blame you for being here. Dave and I have discussed this, the Service Department Director, Tim, has discussed it. Dave, can you tell him what you told me? Tell him where we are with this process.

CITY ENGINEER DAVID KROCK: You bet, Mayor. Where we are right now since the public meeting where we disclosed what we felt the issues were and what the fixes were, we've asked the county to proceed with fixing the storm sewers and the streets in terms of the three catch basins and two manholes that are connected to the wrong pipes and that is adding to the problem, not the whole problem, certainly, but it's adding to it. We asked them to proceed with that work. We're also planning to do some dye testing in the storm sewer to see how much water we have going from the storm down into the sanitary. Because the sanitary is overloaded as is the storm as you mentioned. The sanitary is what is giving you the back up in your homes. That process is going on right now.

The other side of this is while you're fully in favor of it, I've heard from others in the area who say I don't have a problem. Why do I have to pay for this? So as a city, before we go and spend half a million dollars to fix our part of the fix, knowing that there are folks like you who are willing to pay, we have others who aren't. We need to come up with a way where we can make sure that everyone is in on this. It can't be part of the people. The only fix here is when everyone's in it together. Everyone has to fix the real problem and that's going to require us to have the legislative ability to force people to fix the problem if they don't. That's where we are right now

and the Law Director and I have been talking about that. What does it take? We have to have the right legal standing to do that.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Avery, I'm going to tell you that I think that we need to do it and we need to do it quick as far as this legislation because we're going to have people up here complaining that if they don't get water in their basement why do they have to pay? That's something we have to face. I think that it is a long process unfortunately and you know what? Next week if it rains, you're going to get flooded again because it just isn't going to work that quick. Hopefully we can get this done fast enough where it doesn't rain that quick again. I don't have any other answer for you. I wish I did, but there is no other answer than doing what the County told us to do and going through the process.

MR. JOHNSON: Thanks a lot Mr. Mayor and Mr. Krock I appreciate your answers. But here's what I and my family and other people in my position are doing. We will abandon those properties. We will take the loss and the hit because we can't afford to get sick and stay there and die waiting on the city to get us an answer to solving the problems. So eventually it's going to force us into a situation where we either have to walk away or we hope to see it saved. That's where I'm at. Financially, I have the ability to say Avery, you're going to take a loss and yet have the ability to buy another property some place else. Everybody does not have that ability. Why should I? When this is where I chose to live? We got the second and third highest tax rate there is and I know it ain't the city's fault, Mr. Mayor, but I choose to stay here and pay that and live here and raise my grandchildren and see my children come from across the country to visit their mom and dad and to participate in the wholesomeness of living in this city that, like the Mayor, that I love. I don't want to go someplace else to live. I'm comfortable living here.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: OK. Thank you, Avery. Is there anyone else?

CLMN GLENN: I'd like to make a comment on Avery and Cheryl's situation. I have sat down in Avery's basement. We have talked. I, too, have no solution. The Mayor has no solution. I sympathize. I talked to Cheryl and gave her an answer I didn't like to give her: I don't know what to tell you. She's crying on the phone. Literally crying tears. I don't know what to tell you people. The Mayor doesn't know what to tell you. I know we have problems. It's been here for a long long time and maybe Dave, maybe the Mayor? I have no answers, but I do truly sympathize.

There was another neighbor on 104th and South Highland that her basement got flooded. An elderly lady that wasn't able to clean it up. She called All-Pro. It's a clean up service. They think they have insurance. They don't know. \$5,800.00 is the charge. You're concerned about the mold. It's become a serious medical problem that can be in the future. In saying that, I appreciate you folks coming down here. There is a problem. I know the problem. I have no answer for you.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: OK. Thank you. Is there anyone else?

Bill Tillman, 5268 East 105th Street. I am Cheryl and Mike's neighbor. You say it's a long time problem. My problem, Cheryl and Mike's, St. Therese and a couple of others I know just started this two years ago, four, five or six. There has to be a problem. You know there's a problem, but for us this just started two years ago. I bought my house I think in 2005. I lived here somewhere else in the city, but I bought that house. We had no problems. Two years ago it started. I was in Florida. I came back Saturday for the Saturday night flood. Bob Dobies, don't you laugh. This is not a sanitary situation we're in. We have pets that go down there. Some of us have kids that go down there. When you clean it up you have to use bleach. You have to use everything. This

isn't a normal lifestyle we're living right now when this weather is this way. We have to do something. I'm sure that you will, but I hope we do it quickly.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Bill, let me say this. I don't know if the city's getting old or what, but Saturday I got water for the second time in my basement and I've never gotten water in my basement. I don't live anywhere by you. I'm not using that as an excuse. I think Avery wished that on me at the last meeting we had. I really do, but this is the second time I had it. I want to see these houses get fixed too.

MR. TILLMAN: The church, too. They have not had water till the last few years.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Now that's something. You see 102nd Street's problem has been going on for.

MR. TILLMAN: I heard about that. I think we got two different problems here. This hearsay you hear that we got so many streets we got to get fixed. That dog don't work, I'm sorry. That's the truth because if you got a project to fix a lot of roads and you got projects like we're going on right now taking two-three days to get fixed, get them out of the way. That way you got more time to fix the streets. If that's it? I don't know if that's what it is. I'm going on hearsay now.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: You lost me. Run that by me one more time.

MR. TILLMAN: I heard that it can't do anything because they're too busy fixing the streets. That's what I have heard. Again we're going back to hearsay.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: But are you talking about as far as the flooding?

MR. TILLMAN: Yeah. If you got a flood in six places it will take a cleanout for a couple days work, get it out of the way. Take the small jobs and get them out of the way.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: You know Bill, I think that's an excellent idea right up until the time people call me up about their street that hasn't got the potholes fixed yet. They think their street should have been done first. I understand your problem. I really do. Right now if we have catch basins, etc., to fix or clean out, although I don't think that's the problem, we're definitely going to do that because it eliminates.

MR. TILLMAN: You create a problem in that situation. Are you talking about on Elmwood and 104th? That corner. You have to look down there forever. It's packed with mud. It's packed tight. That can create a problem.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: We can clean that out. I'm sure that does not help the situation at all. I wish that was the problem because it would be a whole lot easier. We'd get there. We'd look into it. I think the problem goes deeper than that. I hope it doesn't but I think it does. Dave, you're going to take care of it.

MR. TILLMAN: Your areas just been the last couple years.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: I shouldn't say that's a good thing, but I think it's a good thing as far as finding a solution. If it just started happening then it's got to be something that changed in the last couple years.

MR. TILLMAN: That's what I'm saying. Thank you.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Thank you for your comments. Is there anyone else that would like to speak this evening?

Diane Wells, 4804 East 88th Street. Norm talked about the flooding we have problem. We were told that the big huge 20 foot sewer system was going through. This was before the houses were built and that we shouldn't have that problem anymore. Lo and behold it's not. They stopped work on it apparently. What happened with it? All of this great stuff that was being built up in Garfield Heights for this big huge sewer system is going to solve problems and help things get better and they're not working on it anymore? I'd like to know the answer to that one?

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Dave.

CITY ENGINEER DAVID KROCK: The tunnel is completed.

MRS. WELLS: Is it working?

CITY ENGINEER DAVID KROCK: Yes, it's operational.

MRS. WELLS: So I guess that wasn't our problem? OK. That's what I wanted to know. Thank you.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Is there anyone else that would like to speak this evening? Is there anyone else that would like to speak this evening?

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

PRESIDENT SUSTER: There being no one else we'd move on to Miscellaneous Business beginning with Clmn Nenadovich.

CLMN NENADOVICH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to remind everybody that June 6th was D-Day. That's when the U.S. forces invaded Omaha and Utah Beaches in Normandy. We lost a lot of men and women. We're still doing that. Keep them in your prayers. Thank you.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Thank you. Mr. Glenn.

CLMN GLENN: Thank you, Mr. President. We had a real good Block Watch. We had a cook out there. Everybody had a good time. I get many calls about complaints about the flooding. The area that is affected is a lot larger now than before. This was a storm that came down so hard, so fast with rain, hail. We got overwhelmed. I'm on your side. We'd talk about it. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: OK. I have no Miscellaneous this evening. Mr. Burke.

CLMN BURKE: I just want to say congratulations to all the 2015 high school graduates this year and wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors.

I'd give you a little update on my community garden. I started that last week and seeing as how I'm the only one on Council that's growing anything in a community garden, OK? I'm proud to say it's been a week and I've kept it alive. That's good.

We have our Community Awareness Meeting this Wednesday. We're going to have a little bit of a cookout here on Wednesday at 7 p.m. and I want to invite everybody to come out. Mr. Johnson, I really have taken note of what you said there. I want you to know that (I can't speak for everybody up here, but at least the way I look at it is when there is a problem in a city yes, we all maybe get together and we need to come up with a plan. We need to work together to make sure the people in our wards and our neighbors understand that when there is a problem we all need to chip in to try to fix that problem because when it affects you I know from talking to you that if it affected our neighborhood you guys would maybe want to help to fix the situation too. So I want you to know that.

And last but not least, I want to wish everybody a Happy Father's Day coming up here June 21st. That's all I have.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Clmn Vaughn.

CLMN VAUGHN: Just to let everybody know my tomatoes are doing fine. I'm the only one that grows anything. Just to let everybody know Ward 7's Block Watch cookout will take place on Thursday, June 25th at 7 p.m. in the St. Monica's pavilion. We'll have hotdogs, hamburgers and the regular good picnic food. Everybody please come. Join us even if you're not a member so Ward 7 please come and join us. Sit down and enjoy the evening.

I would like to take this time to wish everybody a Happy Father's Day. The grandfathers, the fathers, everybody out there. Spend the day. Enjoy yourself.

I'd also like to wish everybody a safe 4th of July because we're not going to be together until after the 4th of July so please be careful, be safe. Take your time out there. Enjoy.

Barb, welcome. I'm glad you're here. I think you're going to do a great job. I really do. That's all I have.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: I have one question before you go on. At your Block Watch, will you be passing out seeds?

CLMN VAUGHN: Yeah. I have special seeds.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Mr. Dudley.

CLMN DUDLEY: Before I saw Mr. Johnson I was saying about how flooding when I moved here. Around 1995 we went through quite a bit of flooding up in Saybrook I know I did. That mud was getting out, clean the house, couldn't afford a service and was getting it on our hands and fingers and putting gloves on. You can't afford it. You could only take so much. I could put some down in the basement but it was a blessing that I went through that about the last 14 years or so. I have not built one of them. I'm switching insurance. I changed my policy because of the claims made from the flooding. I can understand that and I hope there is some resolution taking care of that to help you all out there. I know it's a health issue more than economically but the health part, etc. and that's the part we have where we turn the vents on to blow up through the vents. I can understand how you feel about that.

Also I'd like to say that we lost two prominent members of the Ward 1 community. We lost Ms. Temple several weeks ago on Florence and for those who knew Mr. Charles Bryant, he passed about a week ago in his home. Me and Charles talked on Friday and Thursday and to use that

expression we talked like the ladies on the phone, but he was my guy, one of my right hands and I do miss him, you know.

On a good note I went to a party Saturday. Yeah, we do party. The gentleman that was giving the party and I'd like to say Happy Belated Birthday, but we told him Happy Birthday. His name is Mr. Rogers. He lives two houses down from me. He celebrated his 100th birthday. He walks and talks like anybody sitting up here. He's a god guy. Happy Belated Birthday to him once again.

I wish everybody a Happy Fathers Day, to those gentlemen who are fathers, not the ones just sitting up in the home occupying space. Happy Fathers Day to you that we taking care of your family for you, you know? I'm being right about that. But to the men who are real men, young or old, Happy Fathers Day to you all.

Also it's summertime. It's getting warm out there. Young ladies, young men, let's quit walking in the middle of that street. You see in other cities you're getting hit by the cars and they not stopping for you. Hang it up on the corners. Find something better to occupy your time. You don't want to hang in front of the business. Nobody's going to patronize it. It's our community. Business doesn't stay afloat, revenue doesn't come in, the city don't get no taxes. We definitely want to keep it clear, you know. If you know your children are out there, be aware where your children are out at all times. Watch curfews, especially with the young ladies and young men. There's no sense in you being out there until 12:30 or 1:00 a.m. My heart goes out to a young lady in Cleveland who was hit crossing the street at 1:00 a.m., but she was I believe 14 yrs old. That's a bad thing and I don't want to see it happen here. Keep your babies in the house.

Last but not least we wished Mr. Roger Happy Birthday. It's warm now. Let's get the yards taken care of. Keep the community clean. Be safe and enjoy the 4th of July. I wish all my colleagues enjoy your summer and I just don't do the garden thing no more, people, all right?

That's all, Mr. Chairman.

One last thing. I apologize for being a little tardy tonight. I'm a truck driver and it got a little hectic out there and I ran behind. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: OK. Thank you. Mrs. Marincic.

CLWN MARINCIC: My gardens are growing quite well also. As to the flooding issues, I think I probably understand more than any other City Council Member how horrible it is to have your basement flood. The very first house my husband and I purchased in Garfield Heights was a little blue ranch with two bedrooms. We were there six months and I got a flood of water in my basement. About three months later I called my husband at work. I said the basement is flooding again. He goes you know the routine. Pull the fuses from the fuse box. I said I can't. He goes I showed you how. I said I can't swim down there in that muck. He said how high is it? I said it's up to the sixth step. He said I'd be right home. By the time he got home it was up to the landing. It was eight feet high and it kept happening again and again. I was on City Council and I couldn't do a thing about it. The Administration at the time just didn't seem to care. Finally, when I moved out of that house two years later it was fixed, but I lived like that for 14 years. My hope and my prayer is that your problem is solved as quickly as possible because no one should live through that horrible situation. If there's anything this City Council can do to help speed it along you can count on us. It is all of our problem.

Secondly I would like to thank my fellow Council Members, Mike Nenadovich and Joe Suster who assisted in throwing a luncheon for the Service Department a few weeks ago. I think it went well and I really appreciated their help with that.

My sympathy to Charles Bryant's family. He was great man, a kind, gentle soul and he will be dearly missed.

I would also like to wish everybody a Happy 4th of July and for all the dads out there, Happy Fathers Day and I think that's all I have tonight. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: Before we have a motion to adjourn, I would just like to remind everybody that our next meeting will be July 13, 2015 here in the Council Chambers.

CLWN MARINCIC: I make a motion that we adjourn.

PRESIDENT SUSTER: On the motion by Mrs. Marincic to adjourn all in favor signify by saying Yea. All opposed? Meeting adjourned.

AYES, Marincic, Nenadovich, Glenn, Suster, Burke, Vaughn, Dudley

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:24 p.m.

APPROVED:

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Joseph Suster
President of Council

Barbara Molin
Clerk of Council