

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS, OHIO

Monday, October 24, 2011

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

INVOCATION BY: Councilwoman Tracy Mahoney

ROLL CALL: **PRESENT:** Council Members Dudley, Marincic, Nenadovich, Sarnowski, Suster, Mahoney, Vaughn

CLMN SUSTER: Mr. Chairman, at this time I would like to make a motion that we have a speaker here tonight, Bridget Murphy, from the Cuyahoga County Career Vocational School that would like to go over some programs with us. If we could have her speak at this time?

PRESIDENT GERACI: I will turn this over to Mayor Collova.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Thank you, Frank, Mr. Geraci. Before we call Bridget up I just wanted to give everybody an idea of what took place last week. Myself and Noreen Kuban were invited out to the Cuyahoga Valley Career Center to take a look at it and have a tour of the facility and I've known it's been there for a long time. My daughter went there many years ago and I was eager to see what it's like because I hadn't been there for a long time. I got to tell you what. It's the best kept secret that you could possibly know because it is totally unbelievable. I was absolutely blown away by the opportunities that not only our young kids in school have but adults have. They brought me through that whole thing and I'm telling you for beauty school, for nursing, for auto mechanics I could go on and on. It was unbelievable this facility and some of the great things they've done for people. People can get nursing certificates right out of there. I was totally amazed and what I did is I asked them if they would like to come down and talk for about five minutes to the residents about what they have to offer there so we could take another look at this. This is a great idea especially when you have so many people out of jobs right now. If there's a way they could get there and learn a new vocation it would be super. So at this time I'd like to call up Bridget Murphy. Bridget?

Ms. Bridget Murphy. Hi. Thank you, Mayor, for inviting me and talking about CVCC so positively. We call it CVCC. It's Cuyahoga Valley Career Center and it's in Brecksville. We serve eight different school districts and Garfield Heights is one of the districts we serve. We're made up of three components. One is our High School Technical Program, our Adult Ed Program and our Career Development. I actually work in Career Development so my job is to bring careers out to schools and Garfield Heights is one of my communities that I have. We each have two so for example we bring engineers out, doctors out, florists out, electricians out, bakers out and we expose our students K – 12 of the different careers. One of the other things we do is mock interviews with our high school students at Garfield Heights and I know that sounds very simple but sometimes just being simple and saying what to wear and what not to wear is the basics and it really does help that we help them with their resume writing and getting jobs, their college applications and that's some of things we do at Career Development.

The other thing I do is community liaison and I just want to make this clear. Everyone and some of you people do look familiar and I do hope it's because you've been to the Career Center? We have different community events that everyone is welcome to. One is Soup with the Sup. I don't know if anyone's been there before? We offer a free lunch and I've seen you there before. We offer a free lunch and a tour of our building because as Mayor said you really almost have to see it so I want to start by saying everyone is welcome anytime you want to come. I'll leave my name, my number. You give me a call and we'll make some type of arrangement. The other thing we do is Adult Ed Programs and we do everything from ballroom dancing to getting certified in HVAC so there's all kinds of different Adult Programs.

The other part of it is Job Seekers. We have a program meeting twice a month and in that program we help job seekers network. We do resume writing with adults, we do interviewing skills with adults. We take you through it. We have one coming up November 12th and on that one we usually have three different recruiters coming in and they will talk to our job seekers and they will tell them what they're looking for, what they need to do. It's a great program if you know anyone who's out of work or anyone even thinking that they might get laid off. It's a great place to start. We do one-on-one sit downs with them. We'll talk about their jobs. A lot of people haven't really gone on interviews for 20 years. We're there to help you. A lot of things have changed so that's some of the things that we do.

I have Adult Ed catalogs here, also our High School catalog so you can kind of see what our programs are about and I also have my name and number there if anybody wants to give me a call we can give you a tour. One of the other things we offer we have a restaurant that is student-run. So that means our students and we do have a lot of Garfield Heights students that are in our Culinary Program, they cook the food, they serve the food, they clean up afterwards. It's a great hands on practice and we also have a Cosmetology Department that does the same thing. I know for sure at least three girls in the Senior Class, might even be one guy that is in our Cosmetology Program, so it's also a great thing to see.

We are involved with the Chamber of Commerce. I try to go to all the meetings. If not me then somebody else who represents me. We like to stay in the city and be a part of the city as much as we can. In fact, I just heard that you guys had a great weekend with your Autumn Fest? Is that what it was called? I heard it was really good that you guys had a big turnout so that was a great thing and I wish we would have participated. The other thing is every five years CVCC has a renewal on the levy and come November 8th we are on the levy. This is not a tax increase. I wanted to make sure everyone knows that. 41% of our revenue comes from this levy and it is not a tax increase. We want to let you know that. We are Issue 8 in Cuyahoga County and Issue 22 in Summit County. We also serve some Summit County school districts and I have some signs back there if anybody is interested. Does anyone have any questions? I know I gave a very brief overall.

CLMN DUDLEY: No, what I wanted you to do is to maybe say your telephone number slowly and say it twice so if anybody's out there they don't have to guess or try to look you up in the book. They can just look at the video and know exactly how to contact you.

MS. MURPHY: OK. My name is Bridget Murphy and my phone number is 440-746-8127. Give me a call. I'll be glad to return your call and help you any way I can. Anyone else? Thank you so much for allowing me to do this. Hope I see you guys out there. Come visit us.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Mr. Chairman, one last thing I'd like to say is that when we were out there we had lunch. They brought us there for lunch and the students that are going to be chefs

cooked a lunch and Noreen and I was there and they came out with a menu and if I'm not mistaken the young lady that was doing the cooking was from North Royalton High School I believe and I have to tell you I ordered the sausage sandwich and folks, I'm not just saying this, I'm telling you with all the restaurants I've been to and that's through all the country I've never tasted anything as good as this sandwich and I mean it sincerely. This place was great. Blew me away. Let's take an opportunity. They got a great program we can utilize for the City of Garfield Heights. Let's utilize it. Thank you.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you. Bridget, I should see you because I'll be out of a job tonight. Thank you for your comments.

READING AND DISPOSAL OF MINUTES:

Moved by Cllm SUSTER to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of City Council of October 10, 2011 as submitted. The minutes were adopted with seven YES votes. (Suster, Mahoney, Vaughn, Dudley, Marincic, Nenadovich, Sarnowski).

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO COUNCIL: None.

LEGISLATION OUT OF COMMITTEE: None.

REPORTS OF THE MAYOR AND DIRECTORS:

PRESIDENT GERACI: We will move on to the reports of the Mayor and the Directors. We'll start off with Mayor Collova?

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Thank you, Mr. Geraci. I just have a few things this evening. First off, in an effort to help fill our vacant homes in partnership with the Garfield Heights School Board, we're having a Home Fair. We have approximately 912 vacant homes in Garfield Heights. We need a way to bring people in to fill up these homes. What we have to do is put an incentive package together to entice people to come to Garfield Heights. We can't just say come on here to Garfield Heights, we're a great location. We are a great location. We got a great school board. We need something to attract people so we think that this might be the answer. Let me read to you the flyer:

"Thinking about buying a home within the next 12 months? Find out why Garfield Heights is the community of choice. The city of Garfield Heights invites you to Garfield Heights Homebuyers Fair Sunday, November 6, 2011, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Garfield Heights High School cafeteria, 4900 Turney Road, Garfield Heights."

Some of the incentives. The new city incentive package for buyers includes. This is going to be a one-year package and what it's going to offer is for everyone that buys a house in this community in the next year starting November 6th we are going to offer them a one-year free pass to the Rec Center. A family pass one year free and on top of that we are going to waive the escrow fees for that year for everybody that buys a home. That's a huge savings for the people. The reason why we're doing this is that once again when somebody moves in a house and they have to put an escrow down, let's say it needs \$3,000.00 worth of repairs? They put down 110% that's \$3,300.00 so they have to not only put the \$3,300.00 to the city in escrow they then have to pay another \$3,300.00 to get it fixed up so it actually takes \$6,600.00 to get it fixed or \$6,600.00 however you compute it. With this we'll want them to use that money to be able to fix the home up the way it's supposed to be fixed up without putting it in escrow. They will be obliged to fix all the violations. There's no question about it. We'll go after them if they

don't through Court, but we believe this gives them money to help fix these homes. We think this is going to be a great incentive.

Linda Reid, Superintendent, will be on hand with school information. We have realtors, insurance agents and lenders that will be on hand. We're looking at the real estate companies to offer an incentive part of the package and we're also looking at the lenders. You know the lending institutions also will come up with some sort of a discount on something to entice the people here. Obtain cost saving certificates from real estate vendors, obtain free mortgage pre-qualifications, obtain free guides to explain the home buying process, learn more about the FHA 203K Home Renovation Loan, home staging tips, home renovating ideas and a list of all the homes available in Garfield Heights. We also would be having churches there. We're going to be having different people there to show the new people out there that are looking to buy a home why they should come to Garfield Heights. I think this is going to be huge. If you know anybody that's even thinking about a buying a home or is interested in buying a home this is the place to be because they're really going to get a good bargain on this next year.

The next thing I'm going to be bringing to Council and hopefully we can get this approved at the next Council Meeting, we're looking at starting a new program with the businesses. What we want to do is feature two businesses or what I'd like to do is feature two businesses per Council Meeting to come up and speak for a couple minutes and talk a little bit about their companies, about their businesses in Garfield Heights. To give them some advertising and get out to the people. Hopefully they'll bring in some discounts and promotion ideas, etc. There's so many businesses in Garfield Heights that we don't even know about that they're here and we need to help them get advertising so I'm looking for Council's approval on that and we'll be getting to that pretty quick.

On a sad note, Tony Ritchard, Garfield Heights resident, Mr. Ritchard, you know he's not only a Garfield Heights resident. He was my friend. He was a Teamster that I've known for a long time, Tony passed away last week and my condolences go out to his family. He was a frequent visitor to the Council Meetings and we're going to miss Tony.

So with that said I also want to mention to Council that last year I overlooked it and we don't want to overlook it this year. I would like for you to give some thought to the Christmas Lighting Contest that we might put forward for the residents. Give that some thought and see how we want to do it when we have our next Council session. Let's get some ideas and come up with some good ideas for a Christmas Lighting Contest.

With that said I want to urge everyone to vote Yes on Issue 56 and vote No on Issue 2. I also want to wish Council well on the upcoming election.

I just want to take a second to talk about my good friend, Frank Geraci, President of Council. This is your last meeting as President of Council. We're going to miss you, Frank, there's no question about it. Some of the people that you chased off the mike after a few minutes are not going to miss you but I'm sure the rest of us will. You've done a great job, Frank, and I'm proud that you served at the same time I did. We're going to miss you and I wish you well. I know you're now the President of the Democratic Club and I know you're going to do a great job there.

With that said I'll get into tonight's legislation. Ordinance 66. This ordinance is to be in compliance with the State Codes involving water, ice, snow guards on roofs. Ordinance 67 is similar, to be in compliance with State Codes electrical codes and Bill Wervey can get into that

for you if you have any questions. Ordinance 68-2011 is about the Home Fair. It's about the city incentive for the Home Fair.

Resolution 52-2011 of course is about Frank Geraci who I just spoke about. Resolution 53 is an emergency resolution supporting the passage of a teachers and first responders back to work act. This is a pro-active approach to protecting existing jobs and jobs that have been lost because of the bad economy. The biggest thing that hit this entire country was not only the money and the deficit but the loss of jobs is unbelievable. I am solely convinced that if we can figure out something if Washington can figure out a way to create more jobs it will take care of the economy. Everything will fall into place with more jobs so I urge Council to pass that. So with that, Mr. Chairman, you have my report.

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

CLMN SUSTER: Mayor, one question I have is with these home programs. As far as getting together with people looking to buy homes. Let's say that this program on that particular day goes over very well and you cannot take care of all the people that are there, would you hold another day for it?

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: I certainly will. I hope that happens.

CLMN SUSTER: That's what I'm trying to get at. That's all.

PRESIDENT GERACI: OK. Anybody else? We'll move on. City Law Director, Mr. Riley.

LAW DIRECTOR TIM RILEY: I have no report tonight, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Any questions for Mr. Riley? Service Director, Mr. McLaughlin.

SERVICE DIRECTOR TIM McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. President. We are in the middle of trying to button up some of the summer projects. This rain isn't helping us at all. We're still working on the water cutouts. Trying to firm up a final number on those and if not we have to close up the ones that are going to be there for the winter. I started the leaf pickup today. I started with one crew on Garfield Blvd. After I drove around I decided that we needed the crews in other places. There's still a lot of leaves on the trees that haven't come down yet but as the next week or so goes on I'll start putting out more crews. Hopefully we're going to go through two times and get it nailed by possibly the end of November, but you know as weather goes and equipment I'm not quite sure that we can meet the goal. If not as always we always try to get them up and if not like last year we ended up in April picking them up but hopefully this year we're going to get it going. I ask again. I've been driving around and I've had some residents call me. I would like the leaves to just be raked on to the tree lawn, not on the catch basins, not on the streets. There's some that are out there. I saw one today that raked it over the catch basin. As long as they rake it on their tree lawns, we'll come by and get them. As always if they want to get their leaves off these tree lawns and they don't want to wait they can always put them in a bag and put them in the rubbish. That's all I have.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you, Mr. McLaughlin. Any questions for Mr. McLaughlin? We'll move on. Recreation Director, Mr. Dobies.

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR BOB DOBIES: Mr. President and Council Members, good evening. I just want to remind all that our Halloween Skate is this coming Sunday October

30th from 3 to 6 p.m. All residents are welcome. Along with candy for the kids, which was donated again by the Old-Timers' Club, we are raffling off 12 bicycles this year. They're slightly used but in good condition, which were donated from our Police Department. I received a call from the Juvenile Bureau and they asked if we could use them. Normally they are donated to different groups. We thought it would be a good idea to do a give away to our own residents so they can benefit. There's no charge for the raffle tickets on a bike. You will receive one at the gate. All you will need is a lucky ticket. They're really in nice shape. I was really surprised when we brought them in. I saw a mountain bike that I liked myself. I might go get a ticket.

We constantly look for ways to involve our children which is the ongoing goal of the Rec and Mayor Collova. I mentioned at the September 12th meeting that we were implementing a new program at the Rec. The program consists of offering recreational physical fitness for home schooled children. I'm happy to report that our first session has 12 children participating. This is not just a session that kids throw on skates and are free to do what they want, but a structured program where basics are taught as a group. I'm proud we have the insight to offer this program and it looks to expand because of the many inquiries we are getting.

We will again offer the Holiday Get Back Fitness classes which will begin November 15th. You could choose up to 31 different classes if you wish. You can attend as many as you like or mix and match as your schedule permits. All classes are held Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at Fire Station No. 1.

The weekend of November 12th and 13th the Recreation Center will be hosting Rising Stars Figure Skating Completion. This brought in over 140 competitors last year and well over 300 fans.

The weekend of Thanksgiving week, November 25th, 26th and 27th our Munny Hockey Program will be hosting the Annual Gold Cup Tournament bringing in teams from all over Ohio as well as surrounding States. Of course for more information just please call the Rec Center.

If I may, I would like to remind everyone that the school district will have an operating levy on the ballot in November. I know these are difficult times for all, but the significance of the issue has great bearing on our students' welfare, the staff and community as a whole. I would ask all to support Issue 10. Thank you. That concludes my report.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you, Mr. Dobies. Any questions for Mr. Dobies? We'll move on. Finance Director, Mr. Tomola.

ACTING FINANCE DIRECTOR RON TOMOLA: Thank you, Mr. President. I'd just like to inform Council that the Finance Department has completed the implementation of the new payroll system. The last checks last week went out. The direct deposits went out as normal. I didn't hear any problems from anything there and that's about where we're at now so we're off the old system and into the new software now. That's my report.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Any questions for Mr. Tomola? We'll move on. City Engineer, Mr. David Krock.

CITY ENGINEER DAVID KROCK: Thank you, Council President. I just want to give an update on the North Granger/East 88th paving project. Although we've had some rain and things we did finally get going last Saturday. If we get some decent weather this week we hope to have some

pavement on the ground by the end of the week so that's finally moving along and some good news for those residents. That's my report.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Any questions for Mr. Krock? Economic Development Director, Ms. Kuban.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR NOREEN KUBAN: Thank you, Mr. President. I just wanted to thank all the residents who participated in Harvest Fest. It was a really good event. We had a lot of people. I don't know if you caught it on Channel 3 but it was on the news yesterday so you might want to check that out. That concludes my report.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Any questions for Ms. Kuban? Building Commissioner Mr. Wervey.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER BILL WERVEY: Good evening, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Good evening.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER BILL WERVEY: I'd like to urge passage of ordinances 66 and 67. They're housekeeping issues to keep us from being in conflict with the State Residential Code and other than that I have nothing new this evening.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Any questions for Mr. Wervey? Nothing. We'll move on. Comments from the Citizens on the Agenda.

COMMENTS BY CITIZENS:

PRESIDENT GERACI: The rules are this portion of the meeting is for the residents' comments on tonight's legislation only. Comments are limited to five minutes. No one can speak more than once. Please raise your hand to be recognized.

Bob Halen, 12416 Oak Park Blvd. This is directed to you, Frank. Resolution 52. I want to honor you. The city has to honor you. I've known you for a few years. We have worked the polls and we should give this man a standing ovation because he's done a lot in this community. I'm the first one. That's all I have to say.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you, Bob. I appreciate it. I thank you very much for those kind words. I really do. What you said was true though. Is there anybody else on the agenda items? If not, we'll move on to Ordinances and Resolutions.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

ORDINANCE NO. 66-2011

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1373.07 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS.

MOVED BY NENADOVICH TO CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: Nenadovich, Sarnowski, Suster, Mahoney, Vaughn, Dudley, Marincic

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: Nenadovich, Sarnowski, Suster, Mahoney, Vaughn, Dudley, Marincic

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

AYES: Nenadovich, Sarnowski, Suster, Mahoney, Vaughn, Dudley, Marincic

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes 7 Yes votes.

ORDINANCE NO. 67-2011

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1411.15 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS.

MOVED BY MAHONEY TO CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: Mahoney, Vaughn, Dudley, Marincic, Nenadovich, Sarnowski, Suster

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: Mahoney, Vaughn, Dudley, Marincic, Nenadovich, Sarnowski, Suster

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

AYES: Mahoney, Vaughn, Dudley, Marincic, Nenadovich, Sarnowski, Suster

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes 7 Yes votes.

ORDINANCE NO. 68-2011

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE WAIVING THE 110% ESCROW REQUIREMENT TO CORRECT VIOLATIONS RESULTING FROM POINT OF SALE INSPECTION PER SECTION 1313 CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS AND DONATING A FREE ONE YEAR FAMILY PASS FOR THE CITY'S RECREATION CENTER TO OFFER AN INCENTIVE TO ANY BUYER TO PURCHASE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES IN THE CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS.

MOVED BY SARNOWSKI TO CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: Sarnowski, Suster, Mahoney, Vaughn, Dudley, Marincic, Nenadovich

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: Sarnowski, Suster, Mahoney, Vaughn, Dudley, Marincic, Nenadovich

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

CLWN SARNOWSKI: I think this is a great idea and hopefully many people will take advantage of this and we'll get some of those vacant houses occupied. I vote Yes.

CLMN DUDLEY: Before I vote I wanted to mention one thing. I like this idea and I concur with Clwn Sarnowski and hopefully we'll get to move some of the homes that we had an issue with the developer and some of the individuals that wanted to do these properties for us in the Ward. The problem has always been escrow. I think by doing this right here we should be able to move at least quite a number of the properties in the community. I vote Yes.

CLWN MARINCIC: If it works well maybe we could continue it another year, correct, Mayor? I vote Yes.

AYES: Sarnowski, Suster, Mahoney, Vaughn, Dudley, Marincic, Nenadovich

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes 7 Yes votes.

RESOLUTION NO. 52-2011

A RESOLUTION HONORING AND THANKING FRANK GERACI, JR. FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY.

MOVED BY MARINCIC TO CONSIDER BY TITLE:

CLWN MARINCIC: This is where I usually vote Yes, but I want this read in its entirety and if we all vote No our Clerk has to read the whole thing. So I'm voting No.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you.

(The Clerk read Resolution 52-2011 in its entirety.)

NAYS: Marincic

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

CLWN MAHONEY: Excuse me. I do have one Point of Order though. We never did finish with the roll on the Consider by Title.

PRESIDENT GERACI: No, we didn't.

CLWN MAHONEY: We probably need to do that before we go on the Three Reading Rule?

PRESIDENT GERACI: We will go back to the motion to Consider by Title.

REPRISE OF CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: Nenadovich, Suster, Dudley

NAYS: Sarnowski, Mahoney, Vaughn

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you everybody. At this time I would like to thank my colleagues on my Council in working with them in the last two years it's hard to believe two years have gone by so fast. I enjoyed most of the time here. Not all of the time, but most of the time. I enjoyed everybody's acquaintance that I met over the last two years. Some of whom I got very personal with. I know them real well. I can consider Mrs. Marincic my mentor because she's really helped me a lot with this process of becoming President.

I do want to say a few things about the Mayor. The Mayor when he walked into these doors he had his hands full and there were a lot of problems. I give him a lot of credit in regards to all his accomplishments and what he's striving to do and what his goals and objectives are in running this city. I really compliment him in regards to what he's doing, along with every one of his Directors. They're to be commended too because it's been quite a challenging two years that I've seen and I wish each and every one of you the best of luck and I know we're going to move this city in the right direction and I commend each and every one of you. Thank you.

CLWN MAHONEY: I'd like to entertain a motion to continue with the Three Reading Rule.

AYES: Marincic, Nenadovich, Sarnowski, Suster, Mahoney, Vaughn, Dudley

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

CLWN MARINCIC: I know you're nervous, huh

PRESIDENT GERACI: No.

CLWN MARINCIC: You have a distinct pleasure of being the last citywide elected City Council President and I can't think of a better way for it to end. Frank, you've done an amazing job. You came in a novice and you're leaving us a pro and you should be very proud of yourself. This was new for you and you took the bull by the horns and you've been a real pleasure to serve with. You've been there for every City Council Member and you've been there for every resident in this community as well. We were blessed to be able to serve with you. I'm going to miss you. I

hope you start showing up for meetings once in a while. No snickering from the audience please and last but not least, you have my gavel thing there and I want it back.

PRESIDENT GERACI: You'll have it back. Thank you, Clwn Marincic.

CLWN MARINCIC: And I vote Yes.

CLMN NENADOVICH: Frank, it's been a good run. I appreciate all the help you've given me, especially even before when you were on the school board and I called you with a lot of questions you did answer them satisfactorily to me and I appreciate the help you've given me and I vote Yes.

CLWN SARNOWSKI: It's been a great honor to sit next to you while you were serving as our Council President and I vote Yes.

CLMN SUSTER: The only thing I can say is we have to call him Five-Minute Frank because that's all he's going to give you. According to the resolution he's been involved in so many things and he has touched many people's lives whether it was at work or within the community and I would just like to wish Frank a lot of luck. It's been a lot of fun working with him. That's all I have.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you, Joe.

CLMN SUSTER: And I vote Yes.

CLWN MAHONEY: I would like to say it's been a privilege and a blessing to get to know you these past years. You've done a lot of great things for our community. I'm very proud to consider you a friend and with that I vote Yes.

CLMN VAUGHN: Before I vote, Frank, you and I have become very good friends over the past two years.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Yes, we have.

CLMN VAUGHN: I have really enjoyed our friendship. I appreciate your guidance that you have given me and don't think that you're still not buying coffee on Saturday mornings. I vote Yes.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you.

CLMN DUDLEY: All right, Frank. I used a tissue on the way so don't get all mushy eyed on me now, but I tell you out of a lot of people I knew, Frank, you are one of the fairest individuals I ever met in all honesty. You were fair as a Council President since I've been on here. There wasn't a time when somebody had to call you that you didn't return the calls, etc. It was a pleasure not just working with you here on Council but outside of Council and you know I don't look at this as being the end, it's just the beginning because we're going to end up working together somewhere else. We don't know. I wish you the best and I tell you what, Frank, I think you put in two good years and it's been a pleasure. I'm glad that you were the last Council President we had because like Nancy said you are going out with a bang. Get them tears out of your eyes, man. No hugs and kisses from me, right. I vote Yes.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you.

AYES: Marincic, Nenadovich, Sarnowski, Suster, Mahoney, Vaughn, Dudley

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes 7 Yes votes. I am announcing my candidacy for Congress. Thank you each and every one of you. I appreciate those kind words. Sincerely I do.

RESOLUTION NO. 53-2011

AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PASSAGE OF THE TEACHERS AND FIRST RESPONDERS BACK TO WORK ACT.

MOVED BY VAUGHN TO CONSIDER BY TITLE:

AYES: Vaughn, Dudley, Marincic, Nenadovich, Sarnowski, Suster, Mahoney

Motion to SUSPEND THREE READING RULE:

AYES: Vaughn, Dudley, Marincic, Nenadovich, Sarnowski, Suster, Mahoney

VOTE ON ADOPTION:

AYES: Vaughn, Dudley, Marincic, Nenadovich, Sarnowski, Suster, Mahoney

PRESIDENT GERACI: That passes 7 Yes votes.

COMMENTS BY CITIZENS:

PRESIDENT GERACI: We will now move on to comments by the citizens. The rules are you cannot bring up anything of a first nature. You must have previously brought this problem to a Councilperson or a City Hall department. You are limited to speak only once for a period of five minutes. Please raise your hand to be recognized.

James Fruits, 13600 York Blvd. I want to say I am also very moved just by Mr. Geraci's service to our city and to each of you guys for how hard you all work for our city and I am very motivated to help this community be the best that it can be and so I am further motivated by seeing you guys and your service and the way that you guys are helping develop our community. November 8th is a date I believe will change Garfield Heights forever. I believe that there is a ton at stake on November 8th. I'm speaking specifically about Issue 10 which is the levy for our school system. I'm passing around some literature to each of the Council Members. These are the things that are going home to people that are requesting absentee ballots. Issue 10 is a levy for our school district. Here are the things at stake. I would just like to read those. Here's what's at stake if the levy does not pass. Elementary art, music, physical education and library will be cut. State minimums for school day length. 5.5 hours school days for middle and high school students. Five hours for elementary and intermediate students. I have three kids who are in elementary right now and that means if the start times stay the same they are now my kids will be coming home just before one o'clock. That is a shame. They will be having a lot of their education time cut out. That's almost two hours that they'll be having cuts on their education. No hot lunches. I know that you are probably well aware that for many of the students in our school district the hot lunches that they receive at school are the only hot meals that they receive. So it's a shame for us to consider cutting that but it's the position that our district is in. We're looking at a \$3.4 million shortfall for our next school year. So those are cuts that are going to have to be made. Extracurricular activities are all in danger of being cut including all of our sports. I don't

know about you guys but I know that I cannot imagine and I do not want to imagine living in a city that doesn't have any school sports or extracurricular activities. These cuts are not just threats said to get a levy passed and I want to make clear and let everybody know that these are not threats. These cuts are coming because as you guys know the budget has to be balanced and so I'm very excited for some of the things I hear going on in Garfield Heights, some of the economic developments, some of the things even the resolution passed tonight to make Garfield Heights more attractive for homebuyers and to get some of these vacant homes filled. I am very excited about that. I think those are great. But I also know that no family homebuyers are moving into a school district that don't have elementary art, music, PE, hot lunches, five hour school days and no sports. People aren't moving into that school district. It's families that are going to revitalize this neighborhood. It's families that we're attracting by giving them a family pass to our Rec Center. So I'm very excited and very thankful for the work the economic development that you guys do for our city but I urge each of you to get the word out about this levy into each of the residents of Garfield Heights. In the spring our slogan was don't sink our city and that came across pretty strongly to some people so we backed off from using that but I can tell you that if this levy fails and these cuts are made that I think you know and I want the residents to know that these cuts will take years to fix and we've seen our population in Garfield Heights shrink by 9,000 over approximately the last six years. I'm sure these are stats you guys are well aware of. That's 9,000 people less that are paying property taxes to help us support our school district and I'm sure that you guys know we want to turn our school district around, turn everything around for the entire city and so I want to urge everyone to support Issue 10 and to get out the vote and get people out to the polls and I would love to hear each of you voice support in support of Issue 10 as Mr. Dobies encouraged everyone to get out and vote. Our school district has the lowest cost per pupil of any school district in all of Cuyahoga County by a long shot. In closing I urge all of you to voice support for Issue 10 and I can't think of an issue right now that our community is facing that is more important than turning our school district around. Thank you.

MAYOR VIC COLLOVA: Mr. Chairman. I just want to respond and say I wish I would have said it earlier in my report, but Mr. Fruits is 100% correct. The only way this city is going to prosper and we're going to sell homes the first thing people look at is the school district. I mean we can have great programs, give them a free year at the Rec but if we don't have a school where their kids can go and learn and get a good education they're not coming to Garfield Heights. I can also tell you that I've had an opportunity I sat on a couple financial boards prior to being Mayor and I've had the opportunity to sit down with Supt. Reid and Treasurer Al Sluka and the Board and I've gone over the figures with them. People out there keep telling me well they got to make cuts. They're not making cuts. Believe me, folks, this is the end. They have made as many cuts as you could possibly imagine and at some point there's nothing left to cut. I know how tough it is out there and you come to the city meetings and we're looking for money and you go to the school meetings and they're looking for money and I know how tough it is for everybody out there. The only thing I could say is if you can see your way clear at all this is something that is very serious and vital to the city. I certainly endorse Issue 10. Thank you.

MR. FRUITS: Thank you, Mr. Mayor.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you.

Mike Hopkins, 5244 East 113th Street. Mayor, thank you for your comments and your support of the levy. I also am a dad in this community. We moved into this community a year and a half ago in May of 2010. We moved into this community because we wanted to be a part of the solution. I had a business here since 2000 off of Midwest Avenue and that was sold. I'm a

pastor at this point and also on the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and very passionate about the community. We moved here with my wife and kids on purpose. We want to be here. When we arrived there was 1,100 houses available. So congratulations on that lowering a little bit. We've got a long way to go. I couldn't echo anymore what Mr. Fruits has said that our kids deserve an education just like we got. I really believe that on November 8th that is a hinge pin to what is going to happen in the next 20 years in this community. I believe it's either going to improve dramatically at the moment in time or it's going to be in a decline that none of us are prepared to handle. We're here with a message of hope today and of thanks to both obviously all of you, Council President Geraci, Mayor Collova, all the Council people to even give us a chance to speak at an event like this because it matters. We care about kids. I will tell you that I step out, James steps out every day saying support these kids. Come to Friday night football. You'll hear us. We're about these kids. We have kids in schools. We know you care about the kids in the schools. What we would like to see from you all is support. Mayor Collova, thank you for your support. We really appreciate it. That means a lot to the kids in this community and they know that you care. So I would like if it's OK, I know in the past we've had things if you could do something in writing by the Council but also in curiosity if anyone else wants more of these flyers both Mr. Fruits and I have more of them at the back. If you're wondering where the money is going to be spent it's there. I would just like to ask point blank, Mr. Dudley, do you support Issue 10?

CLMN DUDLEY: Sir, why don't you wait until we get to our comments at the end and that way I can say what I have to say. You don't want to go across now. We have comments by Council Members at the end of this session. So you'd be better off to let everybody go through on this session and say what they have to say.

MR. HOPKINS: OK. That'd be fine. I resist that only because my concern is that we're just not going to get the support that we need from Council. We didn't get that unanimously last time and I think we need that now. Our kids need it. There's no more time left.

CLWN MARINCIC: Mr. Chairman, I'm prepared to say I'm supporting it. I think everybody on this Council did last time. Thank you.

MR. HOPKINS: OK. You did. Thank you very much for saying that. That means a lot. I appreciate your time and thanks for a chance to be in front of you and support kids within.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you, Mr. Hopkins. As President of the Council, as my last duty of tonight I do endorse the levy. I've been on the Board for 14 years. There would be no reason why I wouldn't. Kids come first in this community and we need to look out for them especially with Issue 56 with the safety factor built into that in regards to the speeding and the cameras so there's a lot at stake this evening in regard to the schools and in regards to the city so yes, I, too endorse it. With that, do we have anybody else? Yes. Try to keep it to five minutes.

Matt Burke, 13108 Granger Road. I definitely will. I actually did go to a homecoming football game and heard you guys and I thought you guys delivered a great message. One of the things that I did a little research on it recently. 1992 I think was the last time we passed a school levy in Garfield Heights. In 1992 your gas prices were \$1.13/gallon. You could buy eggs at the grocery store for 98 cents a dozen and milk was \$2.78 a gallon. The average income for a family of four was \$43,000.00/year. Today the average income of a family of four is about \$60,000.00/year. Your gas prices have pretty much tripled and your eggs have doubled. We're asking our school system to work on the same budget they did in 1992. You know what? Their gas has doubled or tripled. Their eggs have doubled. They need more money to run this school system and we

need to get behind this. I'm telling everybody in Garfield Heights we need to get behind this issue and we need to get it passed because this is an emergency for us. We have probably one of the best academic school systems in Garfield Heights at William Foster Elementary and we need to keep that going and that's all I have to say.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you. We appreciate that. Anybody else?

Marci Mason, 15604 Maplewood Avenue, Maple Heights. Good evening. I am here representing our recently opened business in your city, Shabazz Beauty Supply. Shabazz Beauty Supply is located at 4546 East 131st Street off of Broadway Avenue. Shabazz Beauty Supply provides beauty products for men and women. We are presently accommodating clientele who are looking for products that is not easily accessible to your community and they are not always carried by your local department store and/or drug store. We carry professional products and instruments such as barber shears and specialized hair instruments used to perform trendy styles of today's men and women. Shabazz Beauty Supply provides a clean and organized selection of products with the added touch of personal customer service when needed.

We have been currently open for two months and have been pleasantly welcomed into Garfield Heights. We choose this community because we wholeheartedly believe this community is a growing community with positive residents, businesses and residents. In the near future Shabazz Beauty Supply would like to extend to other businesses and residents to sponsor events that will empower the city and its residents to continue on a successful path of prominent growth. Again, we are Shabazz Beauty Supply, located at 4546 East 131st Street near Broadway Avenue. Phone number is 216-341-2004. Thank you for your time. Again, my name is Marci Mason.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you, Marci. Anybody else?

Terry Olszewski, Garfield Heights High School, 4900 Turney Road. Good evening. Congratulations. Garfield Heights High School's proud to announce the inductees for the 2011 Cliff Foust Hall of Fame: Emery Ceo, Jack Wilson (Class of 1931), Walter Bujak (Class of 1938), Dick Honacki (Class of 1946), John Schweigert (Class of 1946), Ronald Angello (Class of 1970), Mike Remesch (Class of 1964), George Hasenohrl (Class of 1969) and Dawn Macy (Class of 1991). Myself and Athletic Director Kevin Hartman led a committed devoted team to bring back the strong tradition of Garfield Heights athletics. Named for the esteemed football coach Cliff Foust the Athletic Hall of Fame will be located in the home hallway leading to the gymnasium.

Please join us and our inductees and their families and friends at the Garfield Heights High School Alumni as we celebrate the accomplishments of the distinguished athletes and coaches and their contributions to Garfield Heights athletics. The induction banquet will take place Friday November 18, 2011 at the Garfield Heights Knights of Columbus. The evening will begin with cocktails at 6:30 followed by dinner at 7:30. The presentation of awards is scheduled at 8:30. Tickets are still available. Please contact the Garfield Heights Athletic Office at 216-475-8075 and all are welcome. I do understand that it's not as important obviously as our levy and the gentlemen spoke very highly of what we need to happen in November, but we want to continue the tradition at Garfield Heights High School and continue as you can see we're going way back 1932 to try to catch up to our athletes and the Hall of Fame. Thank you.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you, Mr. Olszewski. Anybody else?

Eric Hampton, 13705 Eastwood. I'd like to piggy back on what the gentleman said about the school systems. I didn't go to Garfield Heights. I went to Shaw and I had a bittersweet thing about Garfield because I never beat them, but me and my wife moved here about three years ago and we don't have any kids yet, but one of the major factors was Garfield was a great city and a great school system. I really feel that we need to get behind Issue 10 like they said so that was a major factor for me and my wife. I also just passed a test for Cleveland to be a fireman but then again they are laying off so I want to piggy back on Issue 2 again. That's very important. I'm trying to be a fireman. My wife is already a nurse so it hit both of us close to home. I want to get more involved in the community. That's why I'm here tonight and eventually me and my wife want to open a business here. We don't know what yet but we like the area and we'd like to continue to give back. That's all I wanted to say. Thank you.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you, Mr. Hampton. Anybody else? Anybody else? Anybody else? We'll move on to Miscellaneous. We'll start off with Clmn Vaughn.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

CLMN VAUGHN: Thank you, Mr. Geraci, always a pleasure. I want to encourage everybody to get out on Tuesday November 8th and if you've got it in your heart you've heard a lot of good things tonight about our schools and about the vocational school. Support these issues If we want a strong community we need a strong school system so let's get out and support them. I'd like to wish Mr. Geraci luck in his new endeavors and hopefully we'll see him back with us in one capacity or another and I wish all my colleagues good luck on Tuesday November 8th. It's been a pleasure serving the city of Garfield Heights the past two years. I've really enjoyed it. I met many good people and I hope it continues. That's all I have tonight, Mr. Geraci.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you, Mr. Vaughn.

CLWN MAHONEY: I, too, would like to ask for support for the issues that are before us on the 8th of November. I would like to congratulate Frank on his retirement. I'd also like to thank--I have gotten a lot of phone calls. Many people know, about 10 months ago I got ill. Six months ago I got better so I'm still getting phone calls and I'm still getting cards from people and I just want to put out there it really touches my heart that people have been so kind to me in that regard. I'm feeling great. I'm all better. Thanks so much for caring about me in that way. Also I'd like to wish everybody a Happy Halloween. That's all I have.

CLMN SUSTER: For those that haven't voted yet, I would hope that you'd vote No on Issue 2 to support our police and the public people. Also for the cameras I would hope that you'd take the time to vote Yes for the safety of our kids. Everybody can say that we're only looking at it for the money, but we're not and that's why it was designated for playgrounds and also around schools.

Also for Issue 8 for CVCC for the joint vocational school. About a month ago there was Mr. Nenadovich, myself, Mary Ryan, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn, we went to one of the luncheons with Soup with the Superintendent and it was a buffet luncheon. It was excellent. The kids did a great job. They do all the work. They prepare the food, they serve it, they run the whole thing. If you're looking for somewhere to have a little party, they do catering and they will cater it there for you. You'd have to see the whole program put together. Like I say the kids did a great job.

Also on Issue 10 good schools make good communities. If we let these kids down by voting No on this school issue we're going to hurt this whole community. We need to build the community

back up to where it has been and I just hope that you'll take the suggestions I did on the issues I talked about and that's all I have this evening. Good luck, Frank.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you, Councilman.

CLWN SARNOWSKI: I echo Clmn Suster's sentiments about the issues and I strongly support Issue 10. The schools do make good cities.

Also I'd like to wish Tim Riley a Happy Belated Birthday. It believe it was October 16th? Happy Birthday.

Good luck, Frank, whatever you do.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you.

CLWN SARNOWSKI: Also we have an opportunity to win \$10,000.00 for our Fire Department. I don't know if anybody's ever taken the Be Fire Smart Quiz? If you go to BeFireSmart.com and click on there and take a quiz and credit our Garfield Heights Fire Department. For the top 60 fire departments with the votes we can win \$10,000.00 and they can spend that money any way they want to. The deadline for that is October 31st so enter. For anybody that has e-mail they can vote once with the e-mail.

Also I'd like to welcome a new business that just opened up in Ward 4, Playmakers. They had the grand opening on Saturday. Check them out. Also NRP I want to thank them for upgrading and staying in our community. They added on to their business. I think everyone noticed Nestaway was demolished (the old building) and we have Overdrive. That's a new business that's coming up there. There's 14 acres and they are putting their new property up on there. It's kind of like a computer place that's opening up. We welcome them into it.

Also on the first Tuesday for the month Ward 4 is having a Block Watch here (November 1st) and we have the honor of having Judge Jennifer Weiler who's going to be our speaker so come and join us at 7 o'clock here. That's all I have.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you, Councilwoman.

CLMN NENADOVICH: Frank, good luck to you.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you.

CLMN NENADOVICH: You know where to find me in the morning?

PRESIDENT GERACI: Yes, I do.

CLMN NENADOVICH: And I'll buy you coffee. Also I'd like to urge people to vote Yes on Issue 10. I'm being greedy. I got a grandson in the school so I'd like to see him continue with telling my it's art day or library day or whatever it is.

Cuyahoga Valley. I plan on using that this year so I'd like someplace to go with that so vote Yes on that issue. I don't speed but vote for the cameras in Garfield. No on Issue 2.

Our Block Watch is the second Thursday of every month at the VFW on Turney Road. It starts at 6:30. You're all welcome whether you're in Ward 3 or not. And as always I'd like to thank the Vets for what they've done. Remember November 11th is Veterans' Day and let's remember the people that gave so much so we could have this opportunity. With that I close.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you.

CLMN DUDLEY: OK. You sure you don't want to save me for last?

PRESIDENT GERACI: I'm sure I want to hear from you.

CLMN DUDLEY: All right. I got a list tonight but we'll make it quick. First of all, I'd like to say, Mr. Fruits, you know I didn't get all your e-mails this year, but I remember last time we had some good serious e-mails and you fight a good battle. In all honesty you could tell that your heart is in there, you're out there and you never stop. Like I saw you and the children out there about a year ago and you all work hard for it. You know you didn't even have to ask because when it comes to education, I already know that and the community has plenty of kids the only meal they get is the meal that they actually eat at school. Also I know how important education is for the children because like I say if we don't educate them, the street's going to do the job for us. We don't want the streets to do it. You definitely have my support for Issue 10 and I'm hoping that people come out and realize it's a sacrifice made but it counts for the value of our homes like I said it do bring good people. I believe that all children within the city of Garfield Heights should be entitled to a good education—the best possible education--that we can provide for these kids. So I do ask people to go out and support this. Like I say Mr. Olszewski he's a person you can call. He do take your calls and he do respond. Like I say you put up a good fight. Your heart is in there. Keep the work up regardless. I wish you all the best on it this year.

I also want to say I hope everybody supports Issue 8 for Cuyahoga Career Valley whatever Center down there because this is not an increase. It's just a continuation on that part there.

Also we want to vote No on Issue 2. That's big. Vote No on Issue 2. People I'm telling you. Don't be fooled by that commercial. You saw the grandma where they tried to switch her and use her for support of it so like I said definitely a No on Issue 2.

Yes on 56. Them cameras are only going into the school zones and the recreation and park zones that belong to the city of Garfield Heights. It's not about trapping nobody. If you see the police giving them tickets you know sometimes they going through our kids like bats out of you know what. We definitely need to put a handle on it and it will slow that traffic down. So it is more or less a safety issue also for that point there.

Also I wanted to mentkn that we are having our Annual Halloween Party and definitely get out and support the one we're having at the Rec Center which will be on Sunday and our Annual Halloween Party is on Saturday and that's on the 29th. We do it every year for the past six years or so. Everybody's welcome to come and it's going to be at the Family Life Center. That's 13400 Dressler Road. Everybody's more than welcome to come there.

PRESIDENT GERACI: You have one minute left.

CLMN DUDLEY: Hey, that's why tonight is your last night, my friend. Anyway, as we go on, I want to mostly also thank Ms. Tubbs because you know our Council Meeting was cut off so a lot of this information about voting on Issue 2 did not even show for the last four weeks. Cut that

right up when it came comments by us it was cut off on the meeting. I thank Ms. Tubbs for making this possible for bringing that to the city so that this could be aired into the homes of the individuals who couldn't make it.

I want to say Frank, once again, it was a true pleasure working with you. I'm going to miss you. With that I wish everybody the best.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Thank you. I really appreciate it.

CLWN MARINCIC: Finally? He's done this before too. Noreen, did we really lose 9,000 residents?

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR NOREEN KUBAN: I'm not sure that's an accurate number. In the last six years we.

CLWN MARINCIC: Lost a couple thousand maybe?

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR NOREEN KUBAN: 27,000.

CLWN MARINCIC: 28,000 on the last Census.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR NOREEN KUBAN: Right. It was about 1,000 or 1,200. I'm not sure. I was using Census data.

CLWN MARINCIC: Last year's.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR NOREEN KUBAN: Correct.

(A resident spoke inaudibly from the audience.)

CLWN MARINCIC: Thank you for clarifying that. Because I know I pretty much out of all of them that I had in my Ward four years ago I might be down 100. I'm pretty accurate with what I have at least in Ward 2. I'm hoping we're not down 9,000. That would be unbelievable.

You're always saying save the best for last. With Frank being our last City Council President I think we saved the best for last with Frank and it's been a privilege and an honor serving with you, Mr. Geraci and I hope that you do continue to come to meetings and when we're talking too long you make a motion in the audience and we'll all laugh at you.

As for Issue10 you all know what your finances are, but if you can support our schools they need this money drastically right now. Programs are cut to the bare minimum so if there's anything you can do. If you could find it in your budget. If you can find it in the kindness of your heart support our children, please. A good community is based on a good school and we really need help right now.

With that, good luck, Frank, and I'd like to make a motion to adjourn.

PRESIDENT GERACI: Roll call.

AYES: (Marincic, Nenadovich, Sarnowski, Suster, Mahoney, Vaughn, Dudley)

PRESIDENT GERACI: This meeting is adjourned. Thank you everybody.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:12 p.m.

APPROVED:

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Frank Geraci, Jr.
President of Council

Barbara Molin
Clerk of Council