#### **COUNCIL MINUTES**

October 4, 2021 Council Chambers 7:00 P.M.

# President Ellington called the meeting to order

ROLL CALL - Mr. Barker, Mr. Blake, Mr. Bubb, Mr. Harris, Mr. Labutis, Mr. Lang, Mr. Marmie

**INVOCATION** – Jeremy Blake

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CAUCUS - Motion by Mr. Marmie to excuse Ms. Hall, Mr. Rath and Mr. Fennell, second by Mr. Blake, motion passed by acclamation

**MINUTES** of September 20, 2021 - Motion by to approve the September 20, 2021 Newark City Council Minutes as presented and the reading be dispensed with in view of the fact each member of Council has received written summary of same **Motion by Mr. Labutis**, second by **Mr. Lang**, passed by acclamation

#### **APPOINTMENTS**

There were none this meeting

### REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance – Received and filed no objections Service – Received and filed no objections

#### REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

There were none this meeting

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

**Ohio Division of Liquor Control** – New application for Ten North Park LLC DBA 1922 On The Square, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor and basement 10 N. Park Place, Newark, Ohio **Ohio Hospice** – Spring 2021 Community Benefit Report

#### **COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS**

**Linda Mossholder, 224 Green Meadow Dr.** – At the last meeting Mr. Lang asked me to see if I could find some substantiation for the request that I had made for American Rescue Act funds. I did look into the federal register and I sent a copy of the information I found. Just for the information for the rest of council, it's in section 26791. Behavioral healthcare in addition to or enhanced state local government services may be needed to meet behavioral health needs exasperated by the pandemic and respond to other public health impacts. These services

include mental health treatment, substance misuse treatment, other behavioral services, hotlines, crisis intervention, overdose prevention, infectious disease prevention and services or outreach to promote access to physical or mental health care preventive medicine. I believe the request for fentanyl strips and the carry out containers would fall under overdose prevention and infectious disease prevention and they are performed through an outreach service.

Steven Smith, 237 Violet Ct. – You are probably going to pass Resolution 21-54 tonight. Resolution authorizing to prepare a funds and action plan for FY 22 Federal Community Development Block Grant Funds. I think I approve of that. I say, I think I do, because as I looked over the whole form of the resolution, there's a lot of that I don't understand. It talks about prevention and elimination of slums and blight. I don't see what the definition of slums and blight is. It talks about 70% of the use is to be for low and moderate income persons. I don't know what low and moderate income means. There's a section that talks about prohibiting the excessive use of force by law enforcement agencies against individuals engaged in non-violent civil rights demonstrations. I approve of that, I'm just not sure it's well defined, what constitutes a non-violent demonstration. We've seen in Columbus where one person thought it was non-violent, other people thought they were and some very unfortunate things ended up happening. Other things that sound good are compliance with non-lead based paint, that's a subject that's near and dear to my heart, at least the eliminating of lead based paint. I did try to look up some of these HUD sections and I quickly got frustrated, I ended up being instructed to install links to my firefox browser and I had other chores I had to do today and didn't spend as much time as I would liked to have. When this was discussed in Committee about a month ago, I didn't remember it having the full form of the resolution with the HUD regulation references. That would've been nice to have had at that time and had more time to look at it. Admittedly, I didn't look at this until this morning, I had it since Thursday. I would like to encourage more transparency, as much as possible, for these things to be discussed. We rely on the trust of our elected officials to make these decisions for us and I would like to have as much information as possible before you discuss and vote on these, especially at this point, since early voting starts tomorrow.

Daniel Reither , 137 W. Poplar – Down around that area, I know it's all over town, but we have a lot of problems and I'm getting the run around with the police. I'm sorry to throw them under the bus. I called the Mayor's office a couple times and finally talked to his assistant. What has happened we have all kind of thefts going on, things like \$10,000 four wheelers, We took the police down there, they said, looks like a stolen four wheeler, we showed them all the paperwork, the guy through his hands in the air and walked back into his house and the police said, at least we got the four wheeler back. My question to everybody is what is that saying to everybody else that's thieving, not only me, but all the older people, no offense, but all the older people out here. I got it on video, where I'm watching this girl that's heavily on drugs or something, dancing on the lady's house, on her step and then start tearing her siding off her house. By the time we got up there, she walked across the street to the gardens, the apartments. St. Vincent DePaul owns these apartments. I've been talking to a person names John Paul. I feel he's giving me the runaround just like the police. Every time I call the police they tell me we can't do this, we can't arrest people. We can't do nothing. Just like with the four wheeler, they never arrested the guy, he's a well known drug dealer and a thief in Newark,

Ohio, well known by everybody and they can't do nothing to this guy for stealing a \$10,000 four wheeler? What is that saying for our community at least on the south side. I know it's everywhere. I see people riding bicycles past the Licking County Justice Center and they're in their underwear. I see people naked taking pictures of women that's naked by where I live. I have grandchildren. I suspect everybody has some grand kids. Do you want your grand kids to watch and see all this that's going on? We need some help. I'm not raising a ruckus or an issue, that everybody should know this problem. You can't tell me that the Mayor or everybody that lives around here don't see this at one time or another. It's a big problems and I'm speaking for me and my fiancé that I moved in with and we're living there. She is scared to death where we live and we talked about moving. I want to give you guys, the people that the tax payers pay, to try to help us get a solution to this. We know it ain't going to happen overnight, but we need some help. I shouldn't have to call the Sherriff's department and them to act like they're babysitting me to try to calm me down, just to shut me up. They should be absolutely doing something about it. They should help us. That's what the taxpayers of this city pay for. We pay to put you in here to be a voice for us and when we call and need some help, we don't mean just come talk to us and quiet us down, we absolutely want some help. Last night I go out with my fiancé and sit on the porch, and she said look over there. There is a guy taking all of his clothes off and is in his skivvies. That's not right at all. I had a young man about a week ago, laying on my swing set at 3 o'clock in the morning with his arm ties off and a needle and the police tell me we can't do nothing about it, we can't do nothing about trespassers or nothing. It's got to be a violent crime. I've seen them walking up and down the road with guns and long swords as long as you and we can't get nothing done. I see them hanging blankets in their car, women go around and put their arm in the car window and five minutes later their dancing, swinging their heads and arms and legs. It's sad when the cops can tell you which houses on your street are the dope houses. They set up tents on the property that St. Vincent DePaul's owns, John Paul wants to hire me as a contractor to go back and run the people out of there, tear down the tents and clean the grounds up but then at the same time he says I've got to be careful I don't get sued. I said why don't you put notes on the tenants' doors that you rent the apartment, not the woods and he says I can't do that because we give them permission to go out in the woods. Me and my brother in law cleaned up a campsite the other day. But we're not doing it again because I think John at St. Vincent DePaul is trying to use me as a scapegoat for him. All the drugs are coming from that place. I talked to a Lt. on the police that if they arrested them that the Sherriff won't take them into the jail, they just let them go. They know the woman by name, but tell me they can't do anything about it, they say there is no indecency law anymore. It's time now that we have to get some help and quit talking about this situation. We need cooperation from the Sherriff's Department, the Police Department and everybody to get this mess in this town straightened up. It ain't just my street, it's all over town. At 10 O'clock at night I see them laying on the steps and sidewalks at the courthouse. It looks like something off the walking dead, it's scarey. People can't even sit on their porch and enjoy the day because of all of this. We need help and some action now.

**April Colley, 140 S. 6<sup>th</sup> Street and Joan Crozier, 136 S. Sixth St** – I was watching TV and I saw some movement and I looked and saw this woman dancing all over the place and I thought there's something wrong with her, so I kept watching and next thing I knew she was on her

porch for about 30-45 minutes, so I called her to let her know someone was on her porch. She said there's a girl on your porch acting crazy, so I looked through my peephole and I didn't see her. She called me several times to say she was still there, so I opened the outside door and she was kneeling down on my porch and I thought what's she trying to do? I told her to call the police and I went out on the porch and asked her what do you think you're doing? I don't think she even knew I was there. You've heard the phrase the lights are on but no one is home, that's what it reminds me of. I don't know if it was drugs or a mental problem. I called 911 and told them she was headed towards the apartments. We do need help. I have been stopped when I was walking a man stood nose to nose with me just looking me up and down and never said a word. There was a house that has since been torn down where they were squatting, the police would remove them and the next day they would be right back. I've had my pocketbook stolen out of my house. They got in possibly when I was asleep on the couch or when I was out back mowing grass. We used to sit on the front porch, but now you can't be comfortable because you don't know what's coming down the street towards you. I've seen a guy running down the street with a big knife, we have strange people loitering around all the time. I've been there 22 and a half years, but the last 5-8 years it's gotten worse. The last 2 years it's gotten really bad. I've been there since 1996 and you used to be able to sit on your porch and talk to people, but now you have to be careful because you don't know what their carrying or what they're going to do. None of us go out after dark it's not safe. It's not safe in the daytime. I've had a neighbor tell me it doesn't do any good to call the police because if they arrest them and take them to jail they will let them right out. You have to keep your door locked 24/7. They will come in even if you are there, it doesn't bother them, they came in and stole my pocketbook when I was in the house.

#### ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

There were none this meeting

# **ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING**

There were none this meeting

## **RESOLUTIONS ON SECOND READING**

By: Mr. Marmie, Mr. Mr. Labutis, Mr. Barker, Mr. Rath

**21-54** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEWARK TO PREPARE AND SUMIT TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD) A ONE YEAR USE OF FUNDS/ACTION PLAN ALONG WITH AN APPLICATION FOR FY 2022 FEDERAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS (CDBG), AS REQUIRED BY 24 CFR PART 91.220, FOR VARIOUS PROGRAMS RELATED TO HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Marmie, second by Mr. Lang, motion passed 7-0

By: Mr. Rath, Mr. Labutis, Mr. Marmie, Mr. Barker

**21-57** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT APPLICATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Harris, second by Mr. Bubb, motion passed 7-0

By: Mr. Rath, Mr. Labutis, Mr. Marmie, Mr. Barker

**21-58** A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE LICKING COUNTY COUNTYWIDE ALL NATURAL HAZARDS MITIGATION PLAN.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Harris, second by Mr. Barker, motion passed 7-0

#### RESOLUTIONS ON FIRST READING

By: Mr. Marmie, Mr. Barker

**21-59 Expedite** APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

(\$6,310.00 STEP/IDEP OT)

Motion to waive two day reading rule by Mr. Marmie, second by Mr. Barker

Mr. Marmie – We need to get these funds moved to pay overtime that has already been done.

Motion passed 7-0

Motion to adopt by Mr. Marmie, second by Mr. Barker, motion passed 7-0

By: Mr. Marmie, Mr. Barker

**21-60** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEWARK TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT APPLICATIONS TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 BODY WORN CAMERA GRANT FUNDING.

To be held 2 weeks for 2<sup>nd</sup> reading

By: Mr. Barker, Mr. Marmie

**21-61** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO TO NEGOTIATE AND ENTER INTO CONTRACT TO PROVIDE WATER SERVICE TO THE LICKING VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

Held 2 weeks for 2<sup>nd</sup> reading

By: Mr. Marmie, Barker

**21-62** A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

(\$3,945.40 Insurance monies for power surge damage to security access panels for entry doors)

Held 2 weeks for 2<sup>nd</sup> reading

### **COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS**

**Beth Bline, 33 Summit Street** – I just want to thank the citizens that came forward tonight. In knocking on doors in neighborhoods and meeting with seniors and other residents I too have heard stories of trauma and even despair. People are in need, afraid to go outside of their homes. This didn't happen

overnight. Nothing on this scale of crime and criminal activity happens overnight. It's seeded and it grows. There's been a lack of attentiveness and therefore things are happening that seniors are telling me with tears down their faces that they never thought they would ever see. I am again grateful for them, it takes a lot of courage and I'll tell you, there are changes coming. So again things like this won't get fixed overnight, but it will get fixed.

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

Safety Director, Tim Hickman – I am pleased to report to you that the Fire Department today took possession of the brand new 100 foot ladder truck that you guys approved the purchase of. We had plans to try to get it up here tonight for everybody to look at but there were some calls for mutual aid that they had to go out and do. So, we hope to have it here in 2 weeks. It's probably going to be about a month before it's on the road, we have to have it outfitted with radios, graphics and equipment, but on behalf of the Department of Public Safety and the Fire Division, I would like to thank Mayor Hall and Director Rhodes for their leadership in spearheading this and we'd like to thank you council members for approving it. It makes the City safer and makes our firefighters safer. Thank you very much.

Interim Law Director Tricia Moore – I'm excited to work for the city. I've been in the Criminal Torte arena for the past 17 years, so I do appreciate citizens coming out and speaking out about what's going on on the city streets. We see what happens in our courts. I can tell you that Newark Police Department is working, I can tell by the number of charges that come through our office. Maybe it's time we get creative about some things and come up with solutions because obviously the citizens are concerned. I appreciate you coming out and speaking to us here tonight. Thank you.

Mayor Hall – I want to thank the citizens for coming forward, it's not easy. Certainly I'm sorry that's going on in your neighborhood, we do have discussion quite a bit and it is a complicated issue, it's not an easy one to fix, but that doesn't mean we ignore it, we'll have discussion. When you come in, we talk about it, so it's not to deaf ears trust me, we do talk about it. We'll have some discussions tomorrow and go through it and try to set a plan, it's not an easy plan. COVID complicates it a little bit and that's the jail situation, obviously drugs are rampant and that's not an easy situation, again those aren't excuses but they are some pieces of it. On another note, as of Friday morning at 12:01am both our Law Director and our Auditor retired after many years of service to the city, again, we thanked them a couple weeks ago and I want to thank them once again. According to the Ohio Revised Code, I appointed an Interim Law Director, Assistant Prosecutor, now Interim law Director, Tricia Moore to this position and Lori Resta, Deputy Auditor to the Auditor's position and they will serve in those positions until the time that the Central Committee does meet and pick those replacements. That possibly could be the 13<sup>th</sup> of October it's still not set in stone, but is just a couple weeks away and they'll make appointments and at that time their Interim appointments will end and those appointees will take over. So, we'll keep you updated.

**Mr.** Barker – Again, I'd like to thank everyone, as mayor said, for coming. We don't know what's happening unless people let us know and I know Director Hickman has taken notes and I'm sure will be

talking with the administration as well as with all of you her in the next few days. I would like to thank Interim Law Director Moore, she got right on the job today and helped me with a couple things. I also want to thank Director Rhodes and his secretary Tina Scott, if I ever can't find Director Rhodes or need something, Tina is always there and help. There have been some requests from the Evans Foundation and some City Parks and we're working through those. Last week there was a little accident over at Cedar Hill Cemetery. I'm glad to hear the drive is okay and the building is structurally oak and our staff is back working, so glad everyone is okay there. Director Hickman, I'm glad you were able to report the new fire truck is here that's very exciting, I know I met with the Chief last week and he was looking forward to that being delivered. I'll end tonight by congratulating Marcia Downes, the retiring Executive Director of The Works. I think many of you know about The Works, it's a great community facility here in Newark that actually brings people from all over the country to their Smithsonian Network. Marcia retired this weekend was the hats off celebration that kicked off her retirement, it was a great event Saturday night here in downtown and Marcia has done many things for the children of Newark and Licking County and we wish her well in her retirement.

Mr. Blake – I want to give some thank you's to Dave Rhodes, a constituent contacted me about some visibility issues on Union Street and I contacted him one day and he had someone take care of it the very next day., I also want to thank BJ Varner for putting some children at play signs out for me and in the south end we've had various property maintenance problems and property maintenance although they are currently a man down, I want to thank that department for everything they do. I want to thank Tina for the light requests I've sent to her, even getting lights up at the bike path. Those are the day to day things, but what you folks came here tonight for is very major. This is not the first time that this council has heard these concerns, we've heard these concerns various times just this year from people on Forry Street and across the street here on West Main came and spoke. And not one person or one member of council is going to solve this we need to come together as a team to find a way to address this because I agree with the comments that you made that this has been going on for some time and it has been getting worse and you've lived it right there and it's just amazing to me that we really need to come together to find out what is it that they need? Does our Police Department need more resources, are there things that need to be changed? Perhaps the Safety Committee of this council should have a discussion about what is the Police Departments response and how should they handle these calls. There are very legitimate concerns about they're not arresting them because if they send them to jail they just get released. So, what is the real issue that is happening and so there should be some public testimony to understand what our patrol officers are going through and how we can help them. I know you didn't fully share everything that you've shared with me over the last few days, but wher you are, there is an encampment right along the riverbank where you are and so they are coming from that encampment going over to the gardens apartments, so you're kind of right in the middle of where they are going back and forth in between. I know Director Rhodes and I went back there with Phil at the end of West Poplar probably 2 or 3 years ago, so this issue is not new, so we have to really address it, do something and take some action as you're requesting. This is going to have to be something that we all address. It's not just in the south end. Many of us are going door to door these days, so we're hearing about the homeless situation, the drug addict and alcohol addiction that's happening as an epidemic. So, I thank you for coming out and thank you for sharing your experiences and I will just say that I am sorry that you're having to live in fear. I know you called me the day this happened and you were definitely fearful and I am just sorry that you have to live in this situation. None of our citizens should have to live like that.

**Mr. Bubb** – I will call a Personnel Committee meeting for October 18<sup>th</sup>. I hear your concerns as well and I've seen this first hand and I think it's important to note that Law Director Moore tonight acknowledged that she heard your concerns and the Law Director's office is the one that prosecutes these cases and the more they take, the more they prosecute, we're going to have less problems. The police will do their job and from there the prosecutor's office has to prosecute these crimes, drugs, break-ins. You hear Ms. Moore acknowledge it tonight, I think you are going to see results.

**Mr.** Harris – I want to thank you guys for coming in, like the rest of us said that we've heard your concerns and we'll get on it to see what we can do to help you guys. I need to call a Service Committee Meeting for October 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Mr. Labutis** – I'd like to thank the citizens for coming out, we're dealing with it in other areas as well but, thanks for letting us know what's going on in your neighborhood we certainly appreciate that. I also want to thank our property maintenance department they have helped me with a few different issues in my ward and I certainly appreciate their help.

Mr. Lang - Thank you everybody for coming from the south end and I think Mr. Bubb made some pretty good points there as far as prosecuting the crimes I think that's really the key, so hopefully we'll see some improvements there. Thank you Ms. Mossholder for coming and bringing up your request again, I had sent your information on to the administration so hoping to get at least an answer there as far as I think there are two different parts to your request one is service oriented and the other is for the fentanyl strips and I would like to get an answer for those for you as well. Mr. Smith, regarding Resolution 21-54, I looked back in our packet that we had for committee on September 7<sup>th</sup> and we did have the full legislation that we considered and then first reading on September 20<sup>th</sup> and then again tonight identical legislation so, the point that you addressed tonight when you said, the form is proforma so anytime you're dealing with the federal government, as I'm sure Ms. Moore will tell you there is a lot of stuff you end up having to throw in there, so I think much of what we referred to tonight is proforma that has to be in there to be eligible for those HID related funds. I want to thank Brian Morehead and Nick Shultz for continued help with the King Rd and Sharon Valley Rd intersection. They did some additional signage there and have the street marked off, I don't know if they've gotten the paint done yet but I think we're close there to making a few more adjustments to encourage people to make that right only turn. I wanted to thank Dave Rhodes, Brian and Don Hiltner for some more attention we have to a water issue we have over on Berwyn. Last, but certainly not least I wanted to thank the Legend 3<sup>rd</sup> graders for letting me come and they made me a nice card this year. We had a great time, I was able to go speak to the 3<sup>rd</sup> graders and it was real special this year because my son

was in the audience. I really had a fun time with them. They considered a resolution to have pizza, and ice cream and donuts in their cafeteria every Friday, it did pass and then unfortunately I had to let them know that I didn't have the power to do that so they were a little disappointed. But, we had a really fun time and they were engaged learning about city government, which I think is real important. So, it was a lot of fun, an honor to do it and one of my favorite parts of this job is speaking to them.

**Mr. Marmie** – I need to call a Finance Committee meeting. Also, I need to bring 21-60 back onto the table and make a motion to waive the two day reading rule on Resolution 21-60.

Motion by Mr. Marmie to waive the 2 day reading rule on Resolution 21-60, second by Mr. Lang. Mr. Marmie – I just missed this, this needs to be expedited in order to meet the deadline for the grant application.

## Motion passed 7-0

# Motion by Mr. Marmie to adopt, second by Mr. Lang, motion passed 7-0

Mr. Marmie – I want to wish Mr. Paul in our property maintenance department a speedy recovery, he's in our thoughts and prayers. Director Rhodes and the Engineers office have helped me out with some traffic issues at the school out on Horns Hill Road, so I appreciate their help there. As far as the residents who came here this evening, I want to thank you very much for coming out and speaking and voicing what your concerns are. A couple things I would just like to add to what has been said. AS far as what's happening at the Sherriff's Department, these folks know the system and right now all they have to do is say they have a cough or they haven't felt well and the Sherriff's Department cannot accept them into the jail due to COVID. SO they know that and they say that whether they're sick or not, they say that. So, that is happening. The other thing I want to say is, I'm involved in a couple different Block Watches that I attend and we go around the entire group and everybody talks about their situations. One thing that the Block Watch always, always, always encourages is to call the police. First and foremost. Even if the police cannot respond right there, right then, they have to prioritize where they're at, it gets on the record. It is key to have a record of an incident. Whether you think it's small or not, if you just suspect something, they may not be able to respond right away because they are working some higher priorities, but it's on the record and that is crucial to the future of prosecution and to helping the Law Director prosecute somebody. Whether it's we saw somebody with a red hoodie and this is what we saw, it was a male this tall, whatever the situation, now the next night there might be somebody with this same thing and they can associate the two. It just helps out, so please continue to call the police on those, do that right up front. It's just what I would recommend. The Block Watch folks talk about all this, the police come there and talk to the Block Watch. In one of my areas we have not only the Police but the Sherriff's office because we have a combination of the township and the city intertwined, so we have both of those entities there and they urge us also to call them and make sure it gets on the record. Please continue to do that. I'm not saying that what you told us tonight, yes we need to do a better job of making sure that we can prosecute that we can take care of these situations. Yes we know that our safety forces are at a level that we would like to get them higher. We are trying our best. If we had five quality candidates tomorrow they'd probably be hired.

But they have to go through the process of being qualified and in addition COVID kept them from training for a while. Training was shut down so we don't have the qualified cadets that can just step in and be police officers. So there's a lot of different things, it's not excuses, it's an obstacle that we need to get around or over and we are going to get around that. I believe not only what you have talked to us this evening but in block watches the same things are happening in numerous places around the city, so we know we have issues and concerns. It doesn't downplay what you are experiencing, it's horrible the fear that you have in your own home or sitting outside your own home. That's not the way that Newark residents should ever feel. We do need to come up with some type of a solution to help you out. I believe it was indicated by numerous people that it can't be done overnight. You're right, but we need to make those steps now. We can't wait two years. I firmly believe the administration is working very hard to hire new police officers. I tis a difficult task right now. We have retirements happening at the same time that we're trying to fill, so we go up two steps and come back another one because of a retirement. But it is on our radar. Safety forces are a top priority for our citizens, it has to be. It has to be for this legislative body. The safety of our citizens is the main reason why government exists sat the local level. We have to provide safety for our citizens. I'm a firm believer that our Interim Law Director, if she is appointed, she's a hard nose, she's going to prosecute. She's been doing that for us and I believe she's going to ramp it up even more. I think that will help us in all areas, not just yours. I thank you very much for spending time to come down here. I know that your time is valuable and it's greatly appreciated that we hear from you and that we can feel what you're feeling because you don't always get that in an email, but I can see it in your faces and hear it in your voices, your fear is real. President Ellington – I'm not sure I can add anything to that. That was very well said, thank you Mr.

President Ellington – I'm not sure I can add anything to that. That was very well said, thank you Mr. Marmie. The only thing I can say is that I do appreciate you coming in and thank you for telling us your concerns. That's the only way we know something and hopefully you'll see some improvement soon. Our next Committee will be at 5:45pm on October 18<sup>th</sup> and Full Council will be at 7:00pm that evening.

ADJOURNMENT Motion to adjourn by Mr. Lang, seconded by Mr. Labutis, passed by acclamation

Don Ellington, President of Council