

## COUNCIL MINUTES

July 18, 2016

Council Chambers

7:00 P.M.

**7:00 P.M.** - President Ellington called the Monday July 18, 2016 Newark City Council Meeting to order.

**ROLL CALL**- Mr. Johnson, Mr. Marmie, Mr. Rath, Mr. Rolletta, Mr. Blake, Mr. Bubb, Mr. Cost, Mrs. Floyd, Mr. Fraizer, Ms. Hall

**INVOCATION** – Mrs. Floyd

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**CAUCUS- Rule 11**

**16-64 A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION-**  
Expedite LATE ITEM

**MINUTES of July 5, 2016** Motion by Mr. Rath to approve the July 5, 2016 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, second by Mr. Fraizer. **Motion carried by acclamation.**

### REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance- **Received & Filed**

Service- **Received & Filed**

Ways & Means- **Received & Filed**

Capital Improvements- **Received & Filed**

### REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

**Barb Jobs, Income Tax Administrator**- income tax revenue report for the period ending June 30, 2016. - **Received & Filed**

**Stephen Johnson, City Auditor**- operating report for the period ending June 30, 2016- **Received & Filed**

### COMMUNICATIONS

**Mayor Hall**- will present the Wastewater Treatment Image award to the employees of the plant

**Linda Hoetger, ZERO Prostate Cancer Champion**- email requesting a proclamation or resolution for National Prostate Cancer month which is September. - **Received & Filed**

**Ohio Division of Liquor Control**- new application for South End Drive Thru LLC at 126 S 2<sup>nd</sup> St- **Received & Filed**

Ronda Watson Barber, President of the 912 Group- email inviting Council and the Mayor to the town hall meeting on race relations put on by the Ohio Business Development Center and OhioMBE- **Received & Filed**

### COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

**William Butcher, 263 Union St**- stated he was going to join the Kiwanians Club asked when Union Street was going to be paved

**Daniel Crawford, 163 S 2<sup>nd</sup> St**- I want to speak in favor of Ordinance 16-29, I think that it is essential that we try to put forward some kind of proposal to get the city moving and to take care of the many things that we need to take care of. On top of that I would also like to speak in favor of the amendment that I know Jeremy plans on offering later on. Not only is it essential to get us moving forward but also to have this great conversation about what kind of city we want to live in. We have many needs before us. If there was some way of having the people vote between one proposal or the other that would even be better but we have very limited time and I think it is very important to give the people of Newark a chance to say do you want to have close to fully staffed firefighters and police officers as we can have. Do we want to have our streets paved at a quicker pace than what we are having right now. Obviously it is not getting done right at this moment because we have very limited funds. I also like parts of Mr. Fraizer's proposal. When I ran for City Council last year I said that I would like some multi-pronged approach. I heard an approach that I liked from one of the firefighters last year when I was in there trying to get their endorsement and that was he wanted to eliminate the

income tax credit for people who worked outside of the city of Newark. I'm for it; it would obviously hit me harder than it would other citizens but we need to do everything we can to get as much resources into this city as possible. If there was some way to combine all of this than that would be great. Whatever happens with this proposal I am going to be voting for it regardless because to do nothing and to continue to allow us to starve ourselves from resources is irresponsible. I know that it was made as a passing remark but I was a little bit concerned at the last committee meeting about a reference to possibly privatizing firefighters. I know that was made as a passing remark in a way but as an impoverished citizen with two children I am concerned how that model would work for poor communities in the city of Newark because I can image a private model would require you to have some type of insurance, have your landlord have some kind of insurance that would pay to have your house protected from fire. What would that mean for rent? what would that mean for the cost of being a landlord? I see us citizens as having a mutual responsibility to one another a collective responsibility if you will to provide for the safety of one another. I view privatizing any kind of public service being not so much dangerous but a step in the wrong direction and it is not the direction I would like to see our running.

## **ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING**

**By: Mrs. Floyd, Mr. Cost, Mr. Blake**

**16-29** AN ORDINANCE LEVYING AN ADDITIONAL INCOME TAX OF ONE-QUARTER OF ONE PERCENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF RAISING GENERAL OPERATING AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT REVENUE SPECIFICALLY AND EXCLUSIVELY DEDICATED TO THE GENERAL CONSTRUCTION, RE-CONSTRUCTION, RE-SURFACING, AND REPAIR OF STREETS, ROADS, BRIDGES AND SIDEWALKS AND FOR THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT NEEDS OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND DIVISION OF FIRE WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY ON ALL TAXABLE SALARIES, WAGES, COMMISSIONS AND OTHER COMPENSATION AS SET FORTH HEREIN AS WELL AS ON ALL TAXABLE NET PROFITS EARNED BY BUSINESSES, PROFESSIONS, OR OTHER ACTIVITIES AS SET FORTH HEREIN AND PROVIDING FOR THE COLLECTION AND ENFORCEMENT THEREOF.

**Motion by Ms. Hall to adopt Ordinance 16-29, second by Mrs. Floyd**

**Motion by Mr. Blake to amend Ordinance 16-29, second by Mrs. Floyd**

**Mr. Blake-** I believe all members of Council have a hard copy of 16-29 A. We have talked about this in Ways & Means Committee twice now but tonight it comes down to a point where we get to a situation where we don't like to be in the situation of talking about raising taxes but we are the elected leaders of our city and we have to look at all of our needs, what needs we have, what resources we have and we have to make a logical decisions as to what we want to ask our stakeholders, our voters to support. I want to remind everyone that is what we are doing. We are going to be asking the voters in November to support something. I go back to my days on the school board; where we are placing something in before our stakeholders, our voters to say yea or nay. I think that they deserve that opportunity to say yea or nay. While we are their elected leaders they ultimately need to make this decision on these very important issues. We talked about the road's needs. I, myself, with the Mayor and David Rhodes and others in this room ran a campaign for our roads two years ago but now I believe that it is time for a comprehensive approach to fulfilling all of our needs. In this room we have heard the needs for roads. In this room we have heard from our Police Chief and Fire Chief about their needs for equipment whether it be fire trucks, police vehicles or other capital improvements but also in this room Mr. President, members of Council we have heard needs for staffing. Specifically a quarter present increase of this amendment would go towards uniform staffing needs of our safety forces, our first responders. I won't be the first to admit here tonight but I sit here as a citizen who is scared in our society. When you read, watch our news on a daily basis you hear the violence that is occurring in our country and in the various communities across our country and even here close to home. Just in January we had an officer killed in Danville. Officer Conley got shot in November of 2014 and then we have had some other incidents of shootings. Violence is rapid in our community so I want to say before voters in Newark let's give them the opportunity to say we need to hire more officers, police officers and firefighters. Ms. Hall's station is browned out on a regular basis. We have staffing needs in our fire department. Before we go to any solution that says part timers is the way to go I think that we should give the voters an opportunity to say we want to support full time firefighters. I would kindly ask this Council to adopt the amendment and move the question on to the voters in November to support more uniformed officers within our first responders, full time quality firefighters and we should support blue lives matter. We should hire more officers for our chiefs, both of them so they can have the resources they need personnel wise to be able to do their jobs and protect our citizens. We need to increase our protectors so I would urge support of the amendment.

**President Ellington-** if you will indulge me for a moment, I know all of us have the changes up here but for the folks out there you are asking for a half of a percent, instead of .25 it is .50 and .25 goes to staffing, .10 goes to capital improvements and .15 goes to roads?

**Mr. Blake-** that is correct

**Mrs. Floyd-** we have talked about our staffing needs over and over again. I think that it is extremely important in light of all of the things that have happened in the last week as well as all of the things that have happened over time. We need a full time professional police department and fire department. The only way we are going to get it is through additional tax dollars. I know nobody likes to pay taxes, they have a hard time with it but on the other hand as citizens we basically get the services that we pay for. I think that this administration has done a really good job keeping the money as tight as they can and using it as efficiently as they can. There have been efficiencies shown in about every department that I have had any contact with. I know the Police and Fire Chief have worked very hard to keep their budgets in line but it seems to me that the citizens of Newark need the opportunity to say yes we want changes, we want improvement, we want more police and firefighters, we want more paving, we want up to date machines, we want up to date fire trucks and police vehicles as well as all of the other equipment they need. If they choose to say no to that than basically we will have what we have now. We will have old vehicles that sometimes break down and cost a lot of money to repair. We will have neighborhoods streets that don't get repaired because we have to repair the major streets when they get repaired and we will just not have enough police officers and firefighters and probably the East Main station will remain closed a good portion of the time. I personally don't want to see that happen. I will vote for this levy once it gets through Council myself but I would hope lots of citizens will.

**Mr. Marmie-** I'm not going to support this amendment or either one, even if this amendment doesn't pass. The reasoning is because earmarking of money is saying that even if we get an additional tax increase means that we will hire more. That doesn't necessarily mean that is going to happen. It can't be guaranteed. With the current situation financially it might just maintain our current staffing levels if this were to pass. To tell taxpayers that we are going to increase taxes and they are going to get additional firefighters or they are going to get additional this or that for roads, we have earmarked dollars before to make sure certain things are done and we have changed it. I haven't supported it. The reason why we do capital improvements the way we do is so it isn't just thrown into the general fund and all of our funds are being utilized towards other types of services and we forget about our capital improvements but yet we have changed that formula the last two years from what Council established years ago to make sure that streets were paved, to make sure that a portion of our funds that come in as far as tax revenue goes towards that. To ask the citizens to earmark dollars for something and support something as a tax increase when in fact we do not hold ourselves accountable to those earmarked dollars is just being deceptive to them and so I am not going to support this or any tax increase that is earmarking of dollars. If you just come out and say we need to raise taxes let us use it however we want that is pretty much what we are asking because we have not abided by our own legislation that was established in the past as far as money going into a particular pot to make sure certain things were completed.

**Mr. Johnson-** I'm not going to support this because I don't think that we have had enough time to think. We have had three proposals before us and I don't think that we have had enough time to really analyze the three proposals and what we can do and what the possibilities are. I think we are moving along with this way too rapidly to try to bring it to a November vote.

**Mr. Bubb-** asked the Mayor and/or the administration, where we stand now we are pushing August and there are a few different proposals here and they all have merit in their own ways and there is obviously a need for money. Would you feel more comfortable if we put this on in the spring? Are we getting too close, down to the wire because I'm hearing proposals but I think the one thing is I still don't know where the infrastructure is in place to get this to pass and where it comes from. You can go out into the community but I think that it has to be more than the legislative body; I think it has to be more of a community approach to doing it. Again I see there is a need I just wanted your thoughts on it.

**Mayor Hall-** November is your least expensive time to put something on the ballot number one. There is a cost involved with this whether it would pass or not. When you put it on the ballot in November and there are many things on the ballot like there usually is in November it costs little to nothing. When we put it on in a primary that can get quite costly sometimes \$10,000.00, \$15,000.00 it depends what is all on the ballot. Cities that usually try to pass tax increases just keep putting them on the ballot until they pass and not worry too much about all of the other dynamics. There is time to explain it to people and get it out. I think that we have some of that set up to get it out and get to meetings to explain it in detail.

**Director Rhodes-** last time we did a levy we worked with Jeremy a little bit and we got the schools to open their doors and we asked voters to come visit us. In one meeting we had participants and the other three nobody showed up. This time around the Engineer, along with the Mayor, myself, Bill, Police Chief and the Fire Chief there is going to be a power point presentation and we are going to go visit The Rotary, Kiwanis, Lion Clubs, we are going to be going to Mondays Talks, we are going to take it to the voters this time instead of asking them to come get informed. Voting to allow citizens to make the decision whether or not to raise taxes is a hard decision, it is not one to be taken lightly. The only thing that I'd ask is whatever this comes out that we all work together as a team. This has to be a team effort in order

for it to pass. If we're not all going to be a team on this for whatever comes out then don't pass anything if we all can't work together. To go out and there be three or four of us it just doesn't work, we have to have a full group effort to make this work. The administration will work with whatever Council gives us.

**Mr. Blake-** I just would like to ask a clarification of the Law Director. Since this legislation does specify where the voters are to say where this money is going, is that not legally enforceable to say where the money is going to go?

**Law Director-** this is somewhat unique because this levy will actually be passed by the voters so the percentage designation whether it is in the original piece of legislation or the amendment could not be changed by this Council or the administration. Now other dollars in the budget could but the amount of revenue generated by this levy if it passes cannot be changed because it is by a vote. Of course you know that there is that 85/15, 90/10 capital improvement, general fund that is a piece of legislation that is passed by Council and Council can change its' mind anytime it wants to with a subsequent piece of legislation. A subsequent piece of legislation cannot change this allocation.

**Mr. Marmie-** I'm just going to follow up on that. I mean what has happened in the past is that we have moved the other money. I know just like our current half of a percent goes into our safety forces but the rest of the budget can be modified because those funds are utilized for that and that is what has happened in the past.

**Motion to amend Ordinance 16-29 to Ordinance 16-29 A was a tie 5 yeas (Mr. Cost, Mrs. Floyd, Mr. Rolletta, Mr. Blake, Ms. Hall 5 nays (Mr. Marmie, Mr. Fraizer, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Bubbs, Mr. Rath**

**President Ellington-** I appreciate this amendment, I appreciate what Mr. Blake is trying to do but what worries me about this and I would also like to say anybody who doesn't think we're trying to do a lot more with less can go back and look at our general fund budget. In 2007 our general fund budget was 30 million dollars, this year I think that it was 24 million or less. We have certainly over the last 9-10 years been getting a million less or a million and a half less and it keeps going down every year. We have certainly done a really good job at doing more with less but we are at the point where we are going to have to do something. Our equipment is getting really old and there are some things that we have to have more money to do. What worries me about this is that when we did .15 we couldn't pass that for just a road improvement and that was on the ballot last year or the year before so I'm just afraid that the half percent is going to be too much even though I would like to move it on to the voters I think that I could support less than that because I think that it would have a chance to pass. So on the .50 the Chair is going to have to vote no.

**The vote to amend didn't pass based on the vote from the President of Council it was then 5 yeas -6 nays**

**Mr. Fraizer-** I would like to offer an additional amendment. The amendment is for a .15 percent increase and it will be a substitute for the one quarter of one percent and that is going to be 16-29 B.

**Law Director-** it doesn't need to be B if you are just making the amendment from .25 in the current piece of legislation to .15. If that amendment passes we can simply make that change tomorrow.

**Motion by Mr. Fraizer to amend Ordinance 16-29, second by Mr. Bubbs**

**Mr. Fraizer-** a couple of weeks ago I made a presentation that included a .15% increase, a 1 Mil property tax levy and a .9% tax credit instead of a 1% resulting in a 10% reduction. I watched in 2014 when the .15% was defeated by 8% of the voters. There is an absolute need for revenue and income in the city. We have to pave our streets, we have to pave our residential streets, we have to have our police force, and we have to have fire trucks that are able to run however taxing more and not solving fundamental problems with our community is not going to work. The voters spoke last time and for us to go back to them asking for even more of an increase and expecting it to pass is just very near sighted. My fear is that we are going to present a .25 to the voters, they are going to say absolutely not and we are going to go into next year trying to solve a budget with no additional revenue sources, no real solutions and a continuation of our problems that we have. I have listened to the Chiefs and I heard what they said and what they said in order for us to promote safety in our community we are required to find additional revenue sources whether that is a tax increase, grants or some sort of money mechanism I spent my time to find a realistic comprehensive plan that can demonstrate to our voters how we can actually increase revenue to provide what we promised them which is residential street paving, updated infrastructure and updated capital improvements. So I encourage Council to support this in the best interest of our community in order to provide our voters with a realistic solution that they can actually get behind and actually support and as we ran short on time in the November ballot by offering them a similar proposal that they were offered two years ago. A property tax increase that is similar to the mental health that was passed last year. I think that the voters will not only be behind this but will be supportive and encourage others to support it as well. I encourage Council to adopt the amendment and pass it on to the voters.

**President Ellington-** Mr. Fraizer your amendment is a .15% tax increase instead of a .25 and a 1% property tax later in the agenda?

**Mr. Fraizer-** correct but the two don't go together.

**Mr. Fraizer's amendment failed by a vote of (Mr. Fraizer) 1-9**

**Mrs. Floyd-** I was in favor of .50 because we do need staffing but we have to do something. We are turning this over to the voters. All we are doing right now is saying put it on the ballot and let the voters decide. I know that they said no to .15 two years ago, I worked on that committee, I went to those meetings where people didn't come but I also know that those needs have increased. I bet everybody up here has had complaints within the last month that say there is a hole in my street; you need to fix this hole and that hole. We have to do something and .25 is better than nothing and we need to let the voters decide.

**Mr. Rolletta-** at this time I'm not going to be able to support a proposal that does nothing to add a single Police Officer to fight crime or a single Firefighter/Paramedic to respond to emergencies.

**Mr. Fraizer-** I want to apologize to the Chiefs ahead of time. I can't support a 2% income tax in the City of Newark. Based on where we are in central Ohio and based on our economic demographic I feel there are consequences to our general population with the 2% income tax and it sets us up to fail in the future. I tried to provide a comprehensive proposal in order to mitigate that and provide equality throughout our tax base and provide additional revenue sources for the future. Although the Council didn't support that I understand that you have the needs it's just we are going to have to work together next year to find a better proposal which we can put on the ballot and solve this problem.

**Ordinance 16-29 was tie 5 yeas (Mr. Blake, Mr. Bubb, Mr. Cost, Mrs. Floyd, Ms. Hall) and 5 nays (Mr. Johnson, Mr. Marmie, Mr. Rath, Mr. Rolletta, Mr. Fraizer)**

**President Ellington-** it is a tough call and being a conservative republican I certainly don't want to vote to increase taxes. I know that the Chiefs are working hard and I know that we are doing everything we can do but we are down to the point where we have to do something. If the Chair were to vote yes on this I would want to urge the administration to come out with a plan or at least come out with a conversation that says if this doesn't pass what are going to do. What the plan is for next year. Do we have to close fire stations, do we layoff safety forces, do we not pave any roads. I think that it would be very helpful to the citizens so they know if you vote for this this is what you get if you don't vote for this, it's not a threat it's common sense. This is what we will be facing. The Chair is going to vote yes.

**Ordinance 16-29 passed by a vote of 6-5**

## **ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING**

**By: Mr. Rath, Mr. Cost, Mrs. Floyd, Mr. Johnson**

**16-30** AN ORDINANCE ANNEXING CERTAIN TERRITORY, GENERALLY DESCRIBED AS BEING APPROXIMATELY 2.0 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, LOCATED IN NEWARK TOWNSHIP, TO THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO.

**Held for a second reading**

## **RESOLUTIONS ON SECOND READING**

**By: Mrs. Floyd, Mr. Blake, Mr. Cost**

**16-56** A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO OF THE QUESTION AS TO PASSAGE OF A ONE-QUARTER OF ONE PERCENT ADDITIONAL INCOME TAX LEVY DEDICATED TO GENERAL CONSTRUCTION, RE-CONSTRUCTION, RE-SURFACING, AND REPAIR OF STREETS, ROADS, BRIDGES AND SIDEWALKS WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY AND TO THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT NEEDS OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND DIVISION OF FIRE WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY IN EQUAL SHARES, NOT TO INCLUDE BUILDINGS OR REAL PROPERTY

**Motion by Ms. Hall to adopt Resolution No. 16-56, second by Mr. Fraizer**

**Mr. Fraizer-** the was an additional part of the proposal that I had, this is to certify with the county what our mileage is. It was realized that this isn't part of his proposal it is Resolution 16-59.

**Mr. Fraizer-** asked the Law Director if this had to pass since the ordinance passed.

**Law Director-** it has to pass if you want it to be on the ballot in November.

**Mr. Johnson-** since we went this far on it I am going to vote yes on this one.

**Mr. Marmie-** I guess I'm just going to ask the chair, if you wanted the administration to do something in order to gain your support I would have hoped that you would have gotten that up front instead of hoping and wishing that it comes through when supporting an issue that goes to the ballot. I am going to continue to vote no and I would urge you or someone I guess I'm taken back as to what happened.

**Motion passed by a vote of 8-2 (Mr. Marmie, Mr. Rolletta)**

**By: Mr. Marmie, Mrs. Floyd, Mr. Cost, Mr. Rath, Mr. Johnson**

**16-57 A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION**

**Motion by Mr. Marmie to adopt Resolution No. 16-57, second by Mr. Johnson**

**Motion passed by a vote of 10-0.**

## **RESOLUTIONS ON FIRST READING**

**By: Mr. Fraizer, Mr. Marmie, Mr. Rath, Mr. Johnson**

**16-59 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CLERK OF COUNCIL TO SUBMIT A REQUEST TO THE LICKING COUNTY AUDITOR TO CERTIFY THE TOTAL CURRENT TAX VALUATION OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO AND THE DOLLAR AMOUNT OF REVENUE THAT WOULD BE GENERATED FROM AN ADDITIONAL TAX OF ONE (1) MILLS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

**Motion by Mr. Fraizer to adopt Resolution No. 16-59, second by Mr. Johnson**

**Mr. Fraizer-** this is a resolution to certify a property tax increase of 1 mil with the county in order to make sure we understand where our value is prior to bringing another resolution forward to put an issue on the ballot for the voters. This equates to about \$35.00 for a property that is valued at \$100,000.00 and it is similar to the mental health levy that was passed last year.

**Mr. Rolletta-** we all know that an income tax is at least based on what you have, the ability to pay however I feel a property tax can hurt those with the least ability to pay. A property tax can hurt senior citizens who are on fixed income; a property tax can also hurt renters because landlords will pass increased costs on to their tenants. Not only that as our income tax administrator said land owners of rental properties could take a deduction if there is a property tax increase resulting in a decrease of income tax revenue. Mrs. Jobses also made a strong case against any reduction in tax credit for our citizens that work in other cities which is also part of this overall plan as a whole. Mrs. Jobses has many years of experience in issue such as these it would be wise for this Council to listen to what she said on this issue.

**Mr. Marmie-** I am a firm believer that if anybody on Council needs legislation to gather information than we should support any other Council member on that. This is not voting for the tax. It is voting for us to go get the information and I am going to support this so Mr. Fraizer has the information he wishes if he wished to proceed. I will not necessarily support the tax increase as you all know I probably won't but I will support him in his quest to gather information.

**Mr. Cost-** with all due respect we have just decided to go forward with a .25 income tax levy. I think going on with this is going to say either we can't make a decision, we're not sure what we are going to do or that there is a possibility we are going to do both. I don't think that we want to send any of those signals. To me the .25 that we agreed to, I think that we need to go on and take that route and see what we can do to get the citizens of Newark to support it and not confuse the issue with any additional considerations that are going to go for what would be another 3 weeks. I don't see that as a positive move.

**Mr. Fraizer-** when it comes to this proposal, we were presented the .25% increase on a Thursday with it coming to a committee on a Monday. I spent the last week after that developing my proposal that included an income tax, property tax and an income tax credit reduction. I heard the income tax director and I respect her experience however I do fail to see the significant impact of a 1 mil increase on property in the City of Newark, Ohio where municipalities throughout central Ohio average 11 mils while we have 3.7 mils. When we have people in Westerville paying \$8,000.00 in taxes and we have people in Newark paying \$800.00 worth of taxes. There is no question to me why we are having struggles with our budget. It is because we don't have property taxes that are significant enough to cover the cost of our services. We could continue to have income taxes that match the rest of the municipalities and fail to have property taxes and match municipalities and then when we don't understand why we don't have the money to provide these services we can look at where our revenue streams are. We have everything in one pot and that is the income tax pot. I have no doubt that my property tax proposal is going to fail. The question is am I going to be able to get the information in order to provide it in the next committee just to watch it fail. You can vote no here or you can at least have the respect to gather information or not but at least I am doing what the people have me here to do and that is make a difference and try to make a difference. Whether it is me just beating my drum for the next three years or not I will still do what the people call me to do.

**Mr. Blake-** I want to take the discussion in a different angle. I obviously voted for the roads and capital improvements for our safety forces and I am most definitely in favor of that, I believe in that. We have had many discussions here in this room for the needs for roads and capital improvement needs for our safety forces. Obviously I was in favor of staffing needs because we have had discussions about needing more police officers and full time quality firefighters. We did not address that issue tonight but I'm sure we will have a painfully discussion later on in the year because of that

decision. However with this proposal, this legislation I have not heard the administration come before us for the needs for parks and recreation. If nothing else I have heard a collaborative discussion with the Service Director and with the Licking County Parks District who just passed a levy last year I believe about parks. So I don't understand the need for parks and recreation as a part of this legislation. When we talk about needs, I have been on this Council for three years now and we have talked about clearly the needs for those other areas but for parks and recreation I have not saw Director Rhodes come before us and say he needs more money for parks and recreation. I have not seen Jeff Hotchkiss come before us and say he needs more money for parks and recreation all the other needs people have we have talked about it but this particular thing, earmarking something for parks and recreation, that is why I'll be voting no.

**Mr. Rath-** I will agree with Mr. Marmie this is an information gathering source of legislation. There is absolutely no cost to the city so I see no reason why not to gather information to make an informed decision so I will be supporting it.

**Mrs. Floyd-** I won't support a property tax so I feel why should we waste the Auditors time in terms of gathering this information and I agree with Mr. Cost. I think trying to explain to the voters that what we are putting before them it muddies the water if there are several parts to it. We have a .25 income tax that is all we are talking about that is a pretty straight forward issue. You're either for it or against it but the whole three pronged approach is to me extremely confusing and so because I'm not going to support that I don't want to spend the time to find out how much it will gain for us.

**Mr. Marmie-** since there was a second comment on it I am going to comment back. To say that this Council agreed upon something, I mean it was a 5 to 5 tie and the chair reluctantly voted for it so to say that this Council is in full support moving ahead with anything I don't know where anybody else was but I didn't see that 10 minutes ago when the vote was cast.

**Mr. Fraizer-** good plans usually are complicated so I apologize for that. I apologize for the complexity and the thought that the voters can't handle an income tax and a property tax increase. With that being said the need for parks and recreation, are funding comes from the general fund, the general fund has been hit hard. Most municipalities have dedicated funding to parks and recreation which sets us up for the future so we don't continue to have to pull out of our general fund. It's not that complicated. The goal is to have more dedicated funding, give the voters the option and understand there is a cohesive approach as to how we should fund our city. If there is any other explanations required you can go to my Facebook page Councilman Mark Fraizer there is a presentation there of 32 slides.

**Mr. Cost-** I would like to clarify that I wasn't trying to say that we had full support what I said was that we had voted and come to the conclusion with a 6-5 vote; that is how I thought it worked if you had more votes for something than against it than it won and passed. Since we passed the .25 income tax I don't see a reason to drag this on and on. I really think that it sends a mixed message to the citizens.

**Motion failed by a vote of 3 ( Mr. Marmie, Mr. Rath, Mr. Fraizer)-7**

**By: Mr. Cost, Mr. Marmie, Mrs. Floyd, Mr. Rath, Mr. Johnson**

**16-60 A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION- CI**

**Motion by Mr. Johnson to waive the two day reading rule on Resolution No. 16-60, second by Mr. Marmie**

**Mr. Johnson-** we need to take care of this right away to get this equipment.

**Motion to waive the two day reading rule passed by a vote of 10-0.**

**Motion by Mr. Johnson to adopt Resolution No. 16-60, second by Mr. Fraizer**

**Motion passed by a vote of 10-0.**

**By: Mr. Marmie, Mrs. Floyd, Mr. Cost, Mr. Rath, Mr. Johnson**

**16-61 A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION**

**Held for a second reading**

**By: Mr. Marmie, Mrs. Floyd, Mr. Cost, Mr. Rath, Mr. Johnson**

**16-62 A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION- Expedite**

**Motion by Mr. Marmie to waive the two day reading rule on Resolution No. 16-62, second by Mr. Johnson**

**Mr. Marmie-** the fire department needs these maintenance dollars expedited in order to make sure that we have adequate funds to take care of certain things.

**Motion passed by a vote of 10-0.**

**Motion to adopt Resolution No. 16-62 by Mr. Marmie, second by Mrs. Floyd**

**Motion passed by a vote of 10-0.**

**By: Mr. Marmie, Mr. Cost, Mrs. Floyd, Mr., Rath, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Fraizer**

**16-63** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH SPECIALIZED LEGAL COUNSEL FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING A PROGRAM OF TAX INCREMENT FINANCING FOR THE KROGER MARKETPLACE AND THORNWOOD CORRIDOR AREAS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

**Motion by Mr. Marmie to adopt Resolution 16-63, second by Mr. Cost**

**Mr. Marmie-** I really appreciate Mr. Mauter giving me some additional information. I think that this will be very beneficial to have the TIF for that area. It could create a huge benefit as far as the Baker Boulevard extension over to where our schools are and just allowing another access point up to that north end that also could take away some of thorough fare traffic on 21<sup>st</sup> Street. I think that it could be a win win for that entire area if this goes thru and we are able to collect the funds and finance that project with those funds.

**Motion passed by a vote of 10-0.**

**By: Mr. Marmie, Mrs. Floyd, Mr. Cost, Mr. Rath, Mr. Johnson**

**16-64** A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION- Expedite LATE ITEM

**Motion by Mr. Marmie to waive the two day reading rule on Resolution No. 16-62, second by Mrs. Floyd**

**Mr. Marmie-**these grant dollars need to be expedited to get our EMS supplies to our firefighters right away.

**Motion to waive the two day reading rule passed by a vote of 10-0.**

**Motion to adopt Resolution No. 16-64 by Mr. Marmie, second by Mrs. Floyd**

**Motion passed by a vote of 10-0.**

#### **COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS**

**William Butcher, 263 Union St-** stated that he will vote for the income tax levy that will be on the November ballot. He also stated that he would not vote for the marijuana issue.

**Tim Barnes, 927 Weiant Ave-** he stated that he was in favor of the income tax levy but not for a property tax. He also stated that the government should not be able to tell him whether or not he is allowed to smoke marijuana.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

**Mr. Johnson-** I appreciate Mrs. Floyd's invocation which mentioned all of the people who recently have experienced a tragic situation and he hopes we can all come together to avoid that kind of situation.

**Mr. Marmie-** called a Finance Committee meeting. - I appreciate Mrs. Floyd's invocation too as I do Mr. Johnson's every week. They really do a fine job of usually putting it right on something that that is in front of us. Mr. Cost I support your second statement and I agree whole heartily with that statement it was the first statement that I didn't take it that way. When you clarified it you are correct in that capacity. I want to comment on Mr. Crawford, there is no insurance or anything involved, I don't know where that is coming from but there is no additional thing like that. There is no discussion on the table right now as far as that goes. Just to clarify your comments it wouldn't cost anyone anything additional or have to have extra insurance.

**Mr. Rath-** called a Service Committee meeting. He congratulated the folks from the Wastewater treatment plant for their awards. He stated that we appreciate what they do and that they do a great job all of the time and that now is a good opportunity to tell them that. He commented on the TIF stating that it is going to be great for the Kroger, 21<sup>st</sup> Street area and that he thought that it was going to encourage development in probably one of the only areas left to develop in Newark and that is the west end, third ward most desirable ward in Newark to live in. He stated that there are good improvements and developments occurring in that area which he is happy about and appreciated the support for the TIF.

**Mr. Blake-** now that a decision has been made to go to the voters with a quarter of a percent but I can't leave this meeting without saying I believe we have missed an opportunity. We have talked and talked about staffing needs for our Fire Department and we know the needs within our community dealing with drug addiction, block watches and relationship building between our Police and our citizens and so hiring more Police Officers and Firefighters I believe we missed an opportunity. I will make that final comment tonight but I will also make the comment that I do believe the



quarter of a present is necessary, our roads are necessary. Our Chiefs made a presentation and they clearly explained the capital improvement needs of their divisions are important so I will be in support of that but I do believe that we missed an opportunity. The next thing coming up is going to be a part time discussion. It's not going to be pleasant but we know that it is going to come.

**Mrs. Floyd**- called for a Street Committee meeting. She reminded everyone that the Final Friday will be an Art Walk and there will also be a history tour of downtown Newark which starts at the train station. The tours are offered at 4, 6 and 8 P.M. There will also be a quilt show at the First Presbyterian Church beside of The Elks from 1-8 P.M.

**Mr. Fraizer**- when it comes to the tax increase as a voter I will be supporting it because it is something that we need and it is something that I feel I am financially obligated to do is to support out Fire Department, support our Police Department. As a Councilmember representing 47,000 people however I can't support it up here because I feel that it is too high and I have not seen a comprehensive plan as to what our repurchasing model is going to be and what our paving structure is going to be and I look forward to that in the coming months. With that being said there is an absolute need in our country for people to stop looking at what divides us and look at what unites us. I watch as little of the news networks as possible because every time I turn it on I see a travesty and that is Americans murdering Americans, people marching in the street against each other and we have much bigger things that we need to solve in this country than focusing on the negativity. I look forward to this Council tackling these real issues that are in our community and I hope that we can do it together and united. I pray that Newark will continue to see progress and we will continue to be a city that solves our problems and not pass the buck on to another generation.

President Ellington- there were a lot of tough votes tonight and I appreciate everyone's attention and I know everyone up here is trying to do the best that you can for all of our citizens. Congratulations guys on your award. Thank you for everyone coming tonight I appreciate your attention and your input.

**ADJOURNMENT-Motion by Mr. Rath to adjourn, second by Mr. Johnson**