

COUNCIL MINUTES

February 6, 2023
Council Chambers
7:00 P.M.

President Ellington called the meeting to order

ROLL CALL - Mr. Harris, Ms. Hottinger, Mr. Houser, Mr. Labutis, Mr. Lang, Mr. Marmie, Mr. Rath, Mr. Rine, Mr. Barker, Ms. Bline

INVOCATION – Mr. Harris

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Samyah Thompson, 4th grade, Johnny Clem Elementary

CAUCUS

Mr. Barker - I will be abstaining from Resolution 23-01

MINUTES of January 17, 2023, Motion to approve by Mr. Labutis, second by Mr. Barker, passed by acclamation

APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Jeff Hall - Reappointing Carole Wachtel to The Combined General Health District Board. Her new term begins March 1, 2023 and will expire February 28, 2028. Subsequent appointments will be five year terms.

Mayor Hall - It's a reappointment, she's done a great job and we appreciate her service so I would ask that you approve her reappointment.

Passed by acclamation

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance **Received and Filed Without Objection**

Service **Received and Filed Without Objection**

Capital Improvements **Received and Filed Without Objection**

Personnel **Received and Filed Without Objection**

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

There were none this meeting

COMMUNICATIONS

Park National Bank - Confidential Statement of Account Newark Mem Bldg./Cedar Hill Cemetery Trust

Columbia Gas of Ohio - Establishing the Pipeline Hazardous Materials Safety Administration Infrastructure Replacement Program Rider

Tim Schaffer, State Senator, 20th Ohio Senate District - As of January 1, 2023 Licking County became part of the Ohio State Senate's 20th District

Jessame Fout, Development Director St. Vincent Haven - Ribbon cutting ceremony of new facility, 115 Wilson Street on March 10, 2023 at 11:00am

Ohio EPA - Citizen Advisory, Requesting Comments on North Beech Corridor Isolated Wetlands Permit Applications. Public Hearing and Information Session Feb 6, 2023, 6:00pm at Jersey Baptist Church

Ohio Department of Agriculture - Spongy moth (formerly gypsy moth) treatments in the area June 2023

Ohio Division of Liquor Control - New Liquor application for Sudhir Dubey DBA Homefires, 380 Seroco Ave. Newark, Ohio 43055

PUBLIC HEARING

By: Mr. Rath, Mr. Barker, Ms. Bline, Mr. Marmie

23-11 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR PLACEMENT OF FARMLAND IN AN AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Motion to adopt by Mr. Rath, second by Mr. Barker, motion passed 10-0

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

Rochelle Volen-Smith, 237 Violet Ct. - Emphasis on the Volen part. Anyway, I'm going to have two speeches tonight one in the first part, one in the second. I would like to take a moment to remember Reverend Doug Grace. He was aptly named because he was full of grace, gentle, kind, brave, helping and standing up for the underrepresented. Reverend Grace was taken from us much too soon, he recently passed on.

Evan Price, Attorney, P.O. Box Columbus Ohio - I, going to make this brief because I believe most of you were present for the Safety Committee meeting and I don't want to recover that ground but I did want to speak to this notion that we can't have businesses operating illegally in the City of Newark. In particular I would point out that anyone operating a game room is not committing a crime at this point. There is no prohibition in Ohio Criminal Law that says if you are operating a game room without a license you can go to jail, it's a felony, it's a misdemeanor, it's a civil matter. So, I wanted to note that first of all. Second of all, as we've heard, the State has taken a hands off approach when it is regulated by the cities and I would note that's the same approach the Federal Government has taken towards medical marijuana that's been authorized by the States. It's still illegal under Federal Law, as a matter of fact, it's a Federal Felony. Every time they open up there are multiple felonies happening because in order to dispense a drug in the United States you need an FDAA Pharmaceutical license, CVS has one, Walgreens has one, they are not selling marijuana because their FDA Pharmaceutical licenses would automatically be revoked if they did. And in addition, even if you have a Federal Pharmaceutical license you can only dispense drugs approved as safe and effective by the FDA. Marijuana has not been approved by the FDA. It hasn't been through many clinical trials most of them are observation. Yet today, marijuana which is far more powerful than it used to be is

being prescribed for morning sickness for women who are pregnant. There haven't been any studies that show it's safe for fetuses but it's being prescribed that way. Observational studies show that it contributes to low birth weight, NICU Admissions, lower head circumference and as they grow older studies from the 90's say it leads to increase risk of schizophrenia. But like I said if you want to talk about criminal activity happening in the City of Newark that's it. It's illegal under Federal law, accepting the money is accepting the proceeds of an illegal drug transaction and I presume that the City of Newark has provided some licenses of some kind to those businesses that are operating. I would urge the City to take the same approach towards regulating skilled game rooms as the Federal Government has taken towards regulating medical marijuana. They chose to leave it to the States and here I think the City Council should be willing to regulate the skilled game rooms.

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

By: Mr. Labutis, Ms. Bline, Mr. Rath, Mr. Marmie

23-01 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PORTIONS OF CHAPTER 830 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO, REGARDING LICENSING REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTRONIC GAMING PARLORS OPERATED WITHIN THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Labutis, second by Mr. Rath

Mr. Marmie - Motion to amend I would like to amend 23-01 and in everybody's packet is 23-01-A. What this amendment does is it gives businesses within our community some time and the opportunity to come into compliance with the law. It's amending it to 90 days from the date of enforcement date of the legislation to at least submit an application for a license and start the application process. Also it states that if there is anybody non-compliant with State licensing regulations then they can be in violation of our law. I offer this amendment because we want to give any facility that wants to operate within the law the opportunity to operate within our city boundaries. This will give them the chance to change if there is anything they are not currently in compliance with and gives them time to plan also for that.

Second by Mr. Lang

Ms. Hottinger - I just want to say I'm glad to see this proposed amendment just because I'm not opposed to gaming businesses, it's fine, I am pro-business, but I certainly want them to be regulated like every other business, but just not to give them time to be able to do that I don't think is right, so I am in favor of this and I thank you for proposing it.

Mr. Barker - I wanted to clarify earlier in caucus I had said I would be abstaining from Resolution 23-01, it's actually abstaining from this Ordinance 23-01, soon to be 23-01-A.

Mr. Lang - Just to clarify procedurally, if we pass this amendment and then subsequently pass 23-01-A tonight, the enforcement date would be 30 days from today, correct? So this would be adding another 90 days so the essentially have 120 days to get that application made.

Motion to amend passes 9-0 with one abstention

President Ellington - Law Director, would you like to add anything?

Law Director Moore - No

Mr. Marmie - I will just make a couple of comments. Ms. Hottinger kind of alluded to it, I think everybody up here is pro-business, but we have to respect our Law Director and the fact that our Law Director has indicated that we have not been in compliance and we can be found not in compliance with the law moving forward. Anytime we've found there is any kind of issue like

that we need to take action upon it. Now, we can do it in a fair manner and that's what I think we are attempting to do here is to be fair and upfront and to make sure that we're working with businesses and we demonstrate the fact that we do want businesses in our community, but we cannot condone things that the State is not going to allow. I know the attorney indicated about the Federal Law. State Law and Local Law is a lot different when it comes to rules and the ruling. We can enhance State law at the local level, we can make it stricter and we can do other things, but we cannot override State Law within the State of Ohio. There is a difference there with State jurisdiction over Federal and also local over State.

Motion to adopt 23-01-A passed 9-0 with one abstention

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING

There were none this meeting

RESOLUTIONS ON SECOND READING

By: Mr. Rath, Mr. Barker, Mr. Marmie, Ms. Bline

23-01 ODOT Final Resolution THE PROJECT CONSISTS OF CONSTRUCTING A TWO-LANE ROUNDABOUT INTERSECTING THORNWOOD CROSSIN, THORNWOOD DRIVE, RIVER ROAD, AND REDDINGTON ROAD, INCLUDING ROADWAY REALIGNMENT, DRIVEWAYS, GUARDRAIL, FENCE, DRAINAGE, WATER MAIN WORK, LIGHTING, SIGNAGE, PAVEMENT MARKINGS, TRAFFIC SIGNALS, LANDSCAPING, BUILDING DEMOLITION, AND A STRUCTURE, LYING WITHIN THE CITY OF NEWARK

Rochelle Volen-Smith - We can't hear it's much too loud out there and your voice is soft.

President Ellington - Would you like us to read that again?

By: Mr. Rath, Mr. Barker, Mr. Marmie, Ms. Bline

23-01 ODOT Final Resolution THE PROJECT CONSISTS OF CONSTRUCTING A TWO-LANE ROUNDABOUT INTERSECTING THORNWOOD CROSSIN, THORNWOOD DRIVE, RIVER ROAD, AND REDDINGTON ROAD, INCLUDING ROADWAY REALIGNMENT, DRIVEWAYS, GUARDRAIL, FENCE, DRAINAGE, WATER MAIN WORK, LIGHTING, SIGNAGE, PAVEMENT MARKINGS, TRAFFIC SIGNALS, LANDSCAPING, BUILDING DEMOLITION, AND A STRUCTURE, LYING WITHIN THE CITY OF NEWARK

Motion to adopt by Mr. Rath, second by Mr. Barker

Mr. Rath - I just want to say that personally I am very excited about this resolution, we've talked about doing this for a very long time, it is great to see it getting into motion.

Motion passed 10-0

By: Mr. Rath, Mr. Barker, Mr. Marmie., Ms. Bline, Mr. Harris

23-02 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO CONTRACT FOR CERTAIN ESSENTIAL SUPPLIES FOR VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO, FOR 2023.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Rath, Second by Mr. Marmie

Motion passed 10-0

By: Ms. Hottinger, Mr. Barker, Ms. Bline, Mr. Harris, Mr. Houser, Mr. Rath

23-03 Exp APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (\$100,000.00 -Alley Paving)

Motion to adopt by Ms. Hottinger, second by Mr. Houser

Ms. Bline - I am grateful for this opportunity to start some momentum in getting some of these alleys which I know in my ward some are technically streets and so I'm excited to see some forward progress and grateful for Mr. Houser for bringing it forward.

Mr. Marmie - I'm not going to be able to support this as worded because of the word paving in there. I would be in support of the funds going towards alleys. The reason why I've talked to the administration the Mayor and the Service Director, the Service Department and Engineering Department do not have the capacity to have a separate paving program nor do they have the time or the means to incorporate any type of alley paving necessarily. They can do certain areas from what I understand the fear is this money will be put in there earmarked for paving for alleys then they won't be able to get to it and therefore we'll have funds in there that we could have utilized to maintain alleyways or even the Service Director has found another method that is outside of paving that he would like to experiment with and to see if it would be just as good, not just as good, but be sufficient for alleyways. There was another one that Layton Excavating, they have another method that could be beneficial also, so I would rather it just say be placed toward alleyways. I understand that Mr. Houser does not wish to do that, he wants the word paving, but the funds might be tied up in there, they won't get utilized and we won't end up paving. So, I can't be in support of it the way it's worded.

Mr. Houser - I think that typically dollars allocated toward alleyways in the City of Newark has been in the form of patching and a variety of other different methods at this point and the purpose of the paving is to change that practice.

Motion passed 6-4

RESOLUTIONS ON FIRST READING

By: Mr. Marmie, Mr. Barker, Ms. Bline, Mr. Rath

23-04 Exp APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (\$135,000 -Additional work on 4th Street) (\$6,000,000.00- Professional Services) (\$4,000,000.00 - Water projects)

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

Mr. Marmie - These are projects that need the funding immediately, so they have to be expedited.

Motion to waive the 2 day reading rule passed 10-0

Motion to adopt by Mr. Marmie, Second by Lang

Motion to adopt passed 10-0

By: Mr. Marmie, Mr. Barker, Ms. Bline, Mr. Rath

23-05 APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (\$60,300.00 -the two line items were keyed-in incorrectly during budget preparation, requested amounts will bring them to needed levels for 2023)

Held until February 21st

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

23-06 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEWARK TO APPLY FOR FUNDING FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE UNDER THE BULLETPROOF VEST PARTNERSHIP GRANT PROGRAM.

Held until February 21st

By: Mr. Marmie, Mr. Barker, Ms. Bline, Mr. Rath

23-07 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEWARK TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT APPLICATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 FIRE ACT GRANT PROGRAMS, IN SUPPORT OF TRAINING PROGRAMS, EQUIPMENT PURCHASES, FUNDING FOR PERSONNEL, FIRE PREVENTION, AND FIRE SAFETY PROGRAMS THROUGHOUT THE CITY.

Held until February 21st

By: Mr. Marmie, Mr. Barker, Ms. Bline, Mr. Rath

23-08 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEWARK TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY FOR AN AWARD OF FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 FUNDING UNDER THE OHIO EMS TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT GRANT PROGRAM.

Held until February 21st

By: Mr. Rath, Mr. Barker, Ms. Bline, Mr. Marmie

23-09 THE PROJECT CONSISTS OF REPLACING BRIDGE NO. LIC-CR804-0173 (SFN 4560078) LOCATED ON WEST CHURCH STREET (C.R. 804) OVER RACCOON CREEK, INCLUDING APPROACH WORK, RESSURFACING, CURB, SIDEWALK, CURB RAMPS, STORM SEWER RELOCATIONS, AND

PAVEMENT MARKINGS, LYING WITHIN THE CITY OF NEWARK and DECLARING AN EMERGENCY
Motion to adopt by Mr. Rath, second by Mr. Labutis, Motion passed 10-0

By: Ms. Hottinger, Mr. Barker, Mr. Marmie, Ms. Bline, Mr. Rath

**23-10 APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (\$74,500 - F250 truck with snowplow, salt spreader, 20 foot trailer)
Held until February 21st**

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

Rochelle Volen-Smith, 237 Violet Ct. - I'm correcting myself, two more things tonight. It occurred to me when I look at the alleys in our city there is I think a problem in the way we are doing it. I don't think we are thinking environmentally. I've seen in some other cities (inaudible) where water is allowed to leach into the ground in a responsible manner. Either comparable or there's newer better ways actually. What is happening here is very often we pave alleyways and every block the grates that allow the water to go into the land causes problems in peoples basements and of course a lot of flooding around the areas. I think we really need to look at some other plans to see a better way of doing this that might be even more cost effective. Also, under the topic of fentanyl strips, I think we're being very, very, short sighted on this. Fentanyl strips save lives, they do not take them. They are preventative to prevent deaths. It does not promote taking fentanyl, it does not promote taking any other drug, it virtually saves lives. Our City attracts drugs, not because we are (inaudible) We don't have enough opportunities for jobs, (inaudible)so people turn to drugs. This is happening in Florida, it's a big problem in West Virginia, it's a big problem all over the country.(inaudible) I have met a lot of homeless people and they have a lot to offer. I think we need to give them a chance. You are killing them. (inaudible)At the same time, we have too many liquor licenses in this City. Especially around poorer areas, they are heavily concentrated. When I was living in another community within the City there were people that would get incredibly drunk and the kids would come to our house for safety, the wives would come to our house for safety. (inaudible) The police would not necessarily come. This was a big problem (inaudible) a gateway drug. You don't think it's necessary to have fentanyl testing strips to decide whether someone is poisoning themselves or not, look at the problem you are creating having (inaudible) alcohol.

Linda Mossholder, 224 Green Meadow Dr. - I'm just going to give a brief update we did have a warming center on Friday. We served 17 people, no dogs or cats, but 17 people were able to get out of freezing temperatures. We are very grateful for the support of the Licking Memorial Hospital, they provided transportation and they also provided food for that night. The warming center is completely volunteer driven, if we don't have enough volunteers we cannot open. We are very grateful for the community show recognize the need for people who do not have a place to stay when the temperatures reach 10 degrees or below have a place to go. We have volunteers from all sectors, from churches a former principle in the Granville School District, volunteers from harm reduction places, so we were able to open. Just as a side we are going through anywhere from 25 to 30 pounds of dog food at the outreach, we do pass out dog food. We see, I think there were 6 dogs and we also give them cat food. One of the things that we also found that we need to have on supply is leashes and dog collars because we want to make

sure the dog stays safe. I'm not going to spend much time talking about my disappointment in the fentanyl testing strips proposal not going forward. I guess I'm not sure the procedure on how you go about doing that. One of the things that the One Ohio Committee put in their use for settlement funds is harm reduction. Fentanyl testing strips are harm reduction and that is said by Center for Disease Control. A strip costs about \$1 a piece, we tried to give out, we were planning on giving out, I'll go ahead and say it, we're giving out approximately 40 strips a week at the homeless outreach. We have to get rid of the misconception that the only people who want these strips is because they are going to take fentanyl. They're using these strips to see if there is fentanyl in the drugs they may be taking. Should they try to get into recovery, absolutely, but a dead person cannot get into recovery. In 2020 there was a 30% increase in Licking County and an 84.2% increase in fentanyl related drugs. So, these are necessary life saving tools. The request I put in is for \$3,000 I don't think that's a huge amount of money to try and save lives. I will send a copy of my proposal to all of the Council members and if somebody could please tell me how the best way for me to go about making proposals for use of Ohio settlement monies in the City of Newark I would appreciate it.

President Ellington - Just so I know, is the church on 30th Street where they have the warming center?

Ms. Mossholder - No, it's at Trinity Lutheran Church on West Main Street, the Disciple Factory is closed and the property is up for sale.

Daniel Crawford, 163 S. 2nd Street - Last time I was here it was clarified to me that we don't have archives anymore for meeting minutes and because I have a one track mind sometimes I didn't think to comment on that. I'm one who believes that transparency is essential for democracy and I think if there is some way we can try to restore the archives or at least let people of Newark how you can get access to old minutes, I'm sure you can do like a public records request or something like that on the website, I think that would help. It was mentioned earlier the minutes are important (inaudible) because knowing our laws is one thing, but knowing the discussion behind those laws I think is a crucial part of it.

President Ellington - And our clerk does a great job on the minutes, give yourself a hand.

Steven Smith, 237 Violet Ct. - I would like to first of all, second Daniel's comment about the minutes and the archives, minutes to be easily available on the website. They were previously, I think that should happen again. And (inaudible) printed minutes (Inaudible), I've encountered a few problems one or two times. The other comment I want to make is just a request for information basically is if there is a status update on the temporary replacement bridge on Cherry Valley. Aside from it being a personal inconvenience for myself which is a very minor issue I can get by. It's a safety issue in terms if EMS access to the hospital (inaudible). I have seen some work being done in that area, I'm not sure exactly what the status of that is I would be very interested to know how that's progressing.

President Ellington - Maybe the Mayor has an update when we get to him.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mayor Jeff Hall - The bridge is made. It was made down in Cambridge, it was being galvanized about a week and a half ago maybe. Our engineer did go down to see the progress a couple of weeks ago and it's 159 feet long, It will be taken apart in sections and brought up here. There are foundations that were built at that 159 span. They did borings in the ground out there, they

had to of course engineer them, usually, we've passed some legislation tonight for bridges and there's lots of engineering on those things. This is pretty quick. They'll bring the bridge up they're doing foundations, then they'll put the bridge across the foundations then they have to build ramps and bring in quite a bit of fill to bring those ramps in on the sides and then the top will be covered with asphalt. So, probably as of where we stand today the best time is probably about the beginning of April, the middle, when the asphalt plants open. So,, that's the update and it's pretty quick from when they started the whole process.

Ms. Hottinger - Where to start, I'm trying to be positive which is really hard for me right now, because I am very offended that you said that we are killing the homeless. There are a lot of people up here and in the audience that work very hard to take care of the homeless, we try to do things we can, we support them financially, we have a ribbon cutting coming up on March 10th at 11am for the St. Vincent Haven, a new mens unit, we are doubling that for the homeless for the men. I am very proud of that I hope that I hope that all of you can come. But, killing them...not necessary and rude and it's offensive.

Mr. Houser - I would like to agree with Cheri's comments there, just because we are not funding the purchase of fentanyl testing strips in this case, the fentanyl testing strips are used to test the strength of illegal drugs, I mean that's the bottom line in this circumstance to me, so to argue that we are killing people by not allowing them to test an illegal drug is a massive stretch in my opinion, but we will leave that as it is. I want to thank everyone who voted in favor of the paving for alleys, I appreciate that.

Mr. Labutis - I just wanted to say that I am happy that 23-01-A passed this evening. As was mentioned earlier I think all of us up here are pro-business but we want businesses at all levels to operate legally, so I am glad that passed this evening and I was happy to support it.

Mr. Marmie - I need to call a Finance Committee meeting for the 21st of February. I'm just going to reiterate and also explain that the process if you want Council to do anything as far as the fentanyl strips, that would take legislation on our part. I'm not willing to being forth legislation is what I indicated. If you can get somebody to ring forth legislation, yes it would come through Finance and I'm not going to deny that, but you would have to find somebody to bring that legislation through and someone to sponsor it out of these Council members up here. So, that's the process and that's our legislative process. I'm going to agree with some of the other comments, I just do, I cannot support something that if they test for a drug then the very next step of what they are doing we have to arrest them possibly. I can't support those actions and that activity. And Mrs. Volen-Smith you can shake your head all you want out there, I am not killing the homeless, I am not going to promote anything that promotes the use of fentanyl or any other drugs in this capacity that I know creates unfunctionable individuals within our community. There are some drugs, like alcohol within moderation, for you to associate that alcohol in all capacities are bad, there are folks that drink responsibly, there are folks that do not drink responsibly, but there are consequences to their actions also. But as far as legality the drugs that you're talking about, they are illegal and I just can't support the use of fentanyl strips and the use of funds up here, our funds, towards that. I think the Narcan is a good use, what we've done so far and I support the Mayor and that decision when that occurred and I'm sure we'll have other uses if there are additional funds available.

Mr. Rath - I'll start off with something positive, once again I am very excited about resolution 23-01, getting a roundabout getting that interchange in motion that's awesome. One

correction, Mr. Houser, you said fentanyl strips test the strength of the fentanyl. That's actually not accurate they test for the presence of fentanyl in other drugs that are illegal, which we are not going to support. You are entitled to your own opinions, but you're not entitled to your own facts. I am 60 plus years old and I can tell you, I'll swear on a stack of Bibles that I am not responsible for the death of any individual in those 60 plus years. You're entitled to your own opinions, but for you to stand up there and say that as a fact, state it as a fact, you are not allowed to do that. Can you shut her up please?

President Ellington - That's enough.

Mr. Rath - In doing so, you've lost all credibility.

Mr. Barker - Just two things, I'm going to stay positive here because the rest of it will not go well if I keep going. I want to thank everybody who attended the Groundhog Breakfast, I know Mayor you had two tables there, I'm on that committee that puts that together, we had a great group at Cherry Valley Hotel, early, early in the morning. We had a great speaker, so thank you to everyone who attended that.

Ms. Bline - I would like to thank our wonderful Police Department they were very on time in coming to assistance for some residents who have made some very difficult calls as of late, so I am very grateful for them. I'd also like to thank local businesses, Mr. Romine on South Williams and Armstrongs downtown and some others who are really making a stand for doing what's right. They are giving out of their pockets again to secure their areas, to do the right thing, to be law abiding and as I was petitioning Mound Builders yet again to secure their park with gates and lights because of the activity that was going on at night, you know these calls, I mean 183 calls for service, really. And then Moundbuilders again, please come protect our park when you're not willing to do anything to help about it, but we're going to keep meeting. I'm very grateful for Mr. Rhodes and Mr. Spring who gave us some wonderful new light that really abated a large human trafficking situation. I've met with the woman who was the responsible person and she chose to not come off the streets and she chose to continue to support her addiction and I will continue to meet with her if she chooses to. But, until then, there are those of us who really care and really work hard to reach out to people.

Mr. Harris - I want to remind everybody that this month is Black History Month. So I did some research, I'd like to share a few things with you. Osbourne Dorsey invented the doorknob and the door stop in 1878, Alexander Miles invented the elevator in 1867, Lydia O. Newman invented the Hair Brush in 1898, that's something that Mr. Rath doesn't need any more and one of my favorite inventions, Frederick m. Jones in 1949 invented the Air conditioning unit. I just thought I would share that with you.

President Ellington - Ma'am, Mrs. Smith, you know the rules, I don't let people interrupt you, so I would appreciate if you would not interrupt. You know, if you would take your mask off, I couldn't understand a word you said.

Mrs. Volen-Smith - I obviously stated an opinion and I find your reaction offensive.

President Ellington - Well, you know the rules and you know how it goes here so, please don't interrupt and I will try not to let anybody interrupt you. Our next meeting is at 5:45 on February 21st, Full Council at 7:00pm

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Harris, second by Mr. Labutis, with that we are adjourned

Don Ellington, President of Council