

COUNCIL MINUTES

September 18 , 2023
Council Chambers
7:00 P.M.

President Harris called the meeting to order

ROLL CALL - Mr. Barker, Ms. Bline, Mr. Chute, Mr. Houser, Mr. Labutis, Mr. Lang, Mr. Marmie, Mr. Neely, Mr. Rath, Mr. Rine

INVOCATION – Ms. Bline

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CAUCUS

MINUTES of September 5, 2023 Motion to accept by Mr. Labutis , Second by Mr. Lang, Passed by acclamation

APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Hall - Appointing Mark Mauter, Chris Harkness, Kandee Engle and Adrienne Eskins (alternate) to the Etna Corporate Park Joint Economic Development Zone 1 (ECP JEDZ1) Board Two year terms beginning Oct 1, 2023 and Expiring September 30, 2025

Mayor Hall - We do these every two years alternating, this is the JEDZ1 Board year, last year was JEDZ2. I have three appointments and one of those listed is an alternate, they all would love to do it. Of course Mark Mauter everyone knows, Chris Harkness is with the County Development Group, Kandee Engle is on the Southwest Licking School Board and Adreinne Eskins is her alternate.

Passed by acclamation

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance - **Received and Filed without Objection**

Service - **Received and Filed without Objection**

Personnel- **Received and Filed without Objection**

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

City Auditor, Ryan T. Bubb – Operating report for period ending August 31, 2023 - **Received and Filed without Objection**

Brenda Cooper, Tax Administrator's Office – Income Tax Revenue Reports for period ending August 31, 2023 - **Received and Filed without Objection**

COMMUNICATIONS

Trish Perry - Webinar Wednesday September 20 Noon - 1pm, An Epidemic Fight: Noting Progress Fighting Street Drugs & Addiction

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

Jeri Good, 12 North Park Place - I am here to say that the Licking County Historical Society's event last week was amazing. It's on their website if you didn't see it. It was their annual Echoes from the Past where they talk about local people who are buried there in the cemetery, this year it was honoring African Americans from the local community and I talked about my great grandparents, they came here in 1885, they worked for the Webbs, if you are familiar with the Webb Museum, the Webb House was the big house beside there. The Webbs actually bought our family home for us, it was really good history. So, I'd like to thank Howard Long from the Licking County Historical Society for handling that particular program, I would like to thank the Mayor for kicking it off and saying some kind words, also Chance at the cemetery for doing a good job. I've heard so many comments people who have gone for years saying it was one of the best ones they've ever been to. It was my first one, so I couldn't compare. Two things that changed according to what they've done in the past, now it's stationary in one spot because it was kind of hard for people to climb around from site to site, then also this year although the announcement said \$5 per person, they waived that so they won't be charging anymore.

Mr. Bruner, 419 S. Second Street - First I'd like to thank Mayor Hall and Spencer Barker for supporting Lite the Nite with your trophy donations, I appreciate that. Also, I talked to several members of the Newark Rodders that does Lite the Nite and they'd like to see more support from the Downtown Newark Association as far as restaurants and stuff like that supporting Lite the Nite, whether it's sponsoring with a trophy or a donation for a door prize it would help. This year was the biggest year they've had in turnout for a long time and they'd like to see it grow. I'm not a member of Newark Rodders but I go to Lite the Nite every year. It's stuff we do and it's for kids and their families to see the Courthouse lit. The other thing on my agenda again, is homeless. Okay, we've got an apartment building 451 Edgemont Road and there's two apartments there apartment A and B, that's allowing homeless to stay there. They set up camps on their patios. The other morning I got up, I take my great granddaughter to school every day, I got up and walked out back and there was one of them standing there urinating in the yard. My granddaughter don't need to see that, nobody needs to see that. I did call NPD, they did come out, what they did I don't know, but then I went down and I always walk my wood line out back, Tricia knows where it's at, and there was a fort built down there. This girl popped her head up from underneath the fort and I said what are you doing, well I'm sleeping. I said not here you're not. I said get out, so I called NPD and we got her for trespassing and we tore the fort down. It's getting worse and something needs to be done. I've done some research and checked into some things, this Homeless Outreach, the people who started it are from Granville, why did they come to Newark to set it up, why didn't they set it up in Granville because that's our problem, these people aren't going to go out and get a job as long as they are handing them everything. I mean this is ridiculous, we're suffering for what they're doing. Yes, Mr. Marmie, he said at the last Council meeting

I was at, well people fall upon hard times. That's true. I was young once, I fell upon hard times, but I made sure my family was taken care of. I went out and got a job, I didn't ask for handouts. That's what this is all about. Like I said before, this is Newark people, take pride in it. Let's make Newark a happy place and a livable place again. The guy that lives in 451 apartment B got into it with my neighbor back there in the red shirt because he was cutting through his property and he told him to get off. Well then his mom comes out and she's in her 80's and he cusses her out. Now the Coalition for Housing is the ones that's putting this guy up there, he's supposed to be on his medications and he's not taking them. So again, we the neighbors in the neighborhood have to suffer for this. Why? Somebody need to tell us why. It's time these organizations around Newark start doing their part so we can live a happy life in our neighborhoods again. Thank you.

President Harris - Mr. Brunner you've already talked to the Safety Director about that problem is that correct? So, hopefully he can help with that problem.

Rochelle Volen-Smith, 237 Violet Ct. - I wanted to say that I noticed that in Pataskala they recently had a Safety Festival, a Safety fair kind of thing and I was really pleased to see that Pataskala took that position in terms of the need for safety education. Thank you.

Clarence Smith, 1203 Briar Hill Rd. , Heath - I rent a storage unit at 328 Wilson Street, I have rented there for 7 years. Recently everybody knows that alley is the McDonalds of drugs. You basically honk, they come out and pay you, you get your drugs. We recently had a person behind us move in and is now a scrapyard in back. Recently I had \$4,000 of tools stolen from my storage unit. I'm a professional mechanic, that's my livelihood, \$4,000 in tools makes me money, now I can't make money. So basically you have a scrapyard behind the storage unit, I just passed there today, they are cutting up metal, you can't approach them at all, they have cameras everywhere, you can't approach their house without them coming out and asking what you're doing. The first thing they do is, Oh we don't know what's going on, we just came from Columbus, we got kicked out of Columbus because we were a problem so we moved to Newark. Well, it seems like they're doing the same thing now because they got kicked out of Columbus, now they're there. Ms. Bline approached there about 1 in the morning and this lady was like, I'm going to return everything I've stolen. So, three doors down, they have a homeless camp in the backyard. Its' right down there on the hill, right by your prestigious Union Street volleyball courts and everything, they're pushing our way now. My second thing is you have toy runs with bikers that have about 1,000 people go there and raise a lot of toys for the community, you have certain elements in town that are warring. So, it would behoove you to pay attention to that to police who goes to that bike show and who doesn't because right now if they're willing to shoot people in plain sight, obviously they don't care who sees them. Thank you.

Jill (inaudible), 1012 Weiant Ave. - The crime in this town has gotten completely out of control, it ties into the fact that nobody is prosecuting or going after these drug dealers. They are in my neighborhood, they are making methamphetamine, they are transporting it all night long back and forth between my neighborhood and I am assuming Wilson Street and we report over and over and over to the police, we've collected multiple license plates, descriptions of people, which apartment

buildings and houses that they are coming from and nobody is going after these merchants of misery and death. It's just exasperating all of the other problems you are going to have continuing, mental health disorders, homelessness, anything that is not tied down is stolen, even my back yard got broken into and they tries to steal a 40 year old bicycle, unsuccessfully though. We have cameras on every inch of our house now. I'm actually uncomfortable because this is the longest I've been unarmed and I just wanted to make my thoughts known. Thank you.

Lance Newman, 445 Edgemont - I live in between the 2 apartment complexes. At my house the other day we were in the back yard and the homeless and the drug problem is a real thing, cutting though my and Jimmy's yard constantly, I went out there when we had a homeless man cussing out his mother. I'm worried that it's going to escalate into violence. I'm not worried on my behalf, I'm worried about violence against old ladies, against Jimmy, he's had heart problems. Beth watched where two people came to the apartments eyeing something with a trailer full of stolen stuff in the back of it and it's getting extremely bad in that area. When I first moved in 2 years ago, you were uncomfortable being there. I made my presence known to the drug dealers and everything else and handled it without the police. Now that they've come back it's gotten worse. I would really like to see something done because I have my animals in the back, I'm worried that someone is going to take a chicken of mine or steal something in my back yard that I use for my gardens and stuff like that. Thank you.

Curtis Puryear, 45 North Ave. - I'm right in front of the bike trail, I've been there a lot of years, I've had a lot of problems with the homeless, I hate to beat that drum again, people back there as well, at one time there was a tent city when I didn't even know there was a tent city across the river from my home then that went a way for a while, but there's people still sleeping on my side, I own all of my property all the way to the river and at first it wasn't such a big deal to me, but it is now. The Fire Marshall came by my house the other day and said they had started a makeshift fire pit and wanted to know if I wanted them arrested or file charges or just shoo them away. I told them to just shoo them away this time, but I've been back there before, I cut all the grass back there, I've been there for 30 years and I'm finding debris everywhere. I've been picking it up, putting it in something and disposing of it either at my place or behind the brick building there on East Main Street. We went out of town and came back and next morning found out there was a body back there, then found out later that he wasn't the only person that was found. I went back there and was cutting grass and was about to go down the hill and cut the grass down there and there was all this trash, grocery bags and plastic bags and candy and chip papers and pieces of flooring and people clothing in the brush that's part of the property that belongs to me, I picked it all up, it was trash day the next day and got rid of the trash. The next day I noticed there was a guy walking back and forth along the perimeter of the trees back there looking for his stuff. I could see that he was incensed and I hollered at him, he did not even look my way not once. I said well, I'm not going to mess with him, he's a lot younger than me, I'm much older now and I'm not into confronting people physically, but it really upset me he just ignored me. That's my issue. I've got my yard fenced in, most of it, but the back half of it is still mine and I don't mind my neighbors and the kids going back through there as a shortcut, but I don't want the homeless there. The bike trail is supposed to be for people who rollerblade, I used to rollerblade a lot in that area and I used to walk and run for years. The bike trail is for people, for a couple to walk for people to walk their dogs, for people

to rollerblade and ride their bicycles or whatever. The unsightliness of these homeless people is beyond measure by now. I just visited California for the first time and saw they have a much worse problem than we do in a small town, yet and still, the back part of my home is my property and I am sure that no one here in this room would like to see homeless set up with tents and carts and trash on your property. I will continue to observe them, continue to run them off, but something needs to be done and they need a central location somewhere else outside of the city.

Jeanne Crumrine, 1267 West Main Street - I am here in support of my mother that is 87 years old and who owns a property that used to be a commercial property in the 300 block of Wilson Street. We've had a lot of break ins recently in a month and a half we've had three break ins and I fear for her because at one time when she went to the one property we feared that someone might have been in the building at the time she was there and she goes there quite a bit. So, I would like to see either more policing in the area or a nuisance issue be put upon certain people because there is a big problem there. We've been there for years and it's just gotten really bad there right now, so I hope that everyone can support doing a nuisance law.

Isaiah (inaudible), 443 S. 2nd Street - I know Tom, Lance and Jim and I'm a strong witness of things I've seen and I think we should do something about folks camping out in the fields, I know 2 or 2/12 years ago they found a body in the field. They are constantly saying something to them. This one incidence a lady close by us passed away, when they found out she was deceased there was this couple that went up in there and stole so much stuff. Before they left, I called the police and I was out there for a while, I watched them pull away and there was no way they should've got past the cop, things sticking out the windows, the way the vehicle was, but they got away. They go around stealing things, they go around the neighborhood seeing if they can find a package. They even walked by my apartment and twisted the doorknob. Folks are getting fed up, they don't want someone to get in trouble but they would like to protect what they've worked for and protect their families, I just wanted to say that.

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

By: Mr. Lang, Mr. Barker, Ms. Bline, Mr. Labutis, Mr. Marmie

23-40-B AN ORDINANCE SETTING COMPENSATION AND STATING POLICY WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN APPOINTED POSITIONS OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT HEREWITH

Motion to adopt by Mr. Lang, second by Mr. Houser, Motion passed 10-0

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING

By: Mr. Lang, Mr. Chute, Mr. Neely, Mr. Marmie, Mr. Barker, Ms. Bline, Mr. Labutis

23-49 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING, ACCEPTING, RATIFYING AND ADOPTING AN EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO, AND AFSCME LOCAL 2963 AND OHIO COUNCIL 8, AFL-CIO, PROVIDING FOR THE APPLICATION OF ALL TERMS, CONDITIONS, AND BENEFITS OF SAID AGREEMENT, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2023, REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF SAID EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

By: Mr. Lang, Mr. Barker, Mr. Labutis

23-50 AN ORDINANCE MODIFYING THE PAY RANGE FOR THE POSITION OF STREET/TRAFFIC CONTROL OPERATIONS MANAGER IN THE CITY OF NEWARK, DEPARTMENT OF SERVICE DIVISION OF STREET MAINTENANCE AND AMENDING THE DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZATION TABLES OF AND SETTING THE COMPENSATION THEREFOR

Held until 10-2-23

RESOLUTIONS ON SECOND READING

By: Mr. Marmie, Mr. Rath, Mr. Barker, Ms. Bline, Mr. Labutis, Mr. Neely, Mr. Lang

23-75 APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (\$40,000.00 -Purchase of 600-3/4" Water meters for Lead Service Line Replacement Projects)

Motion to adopt by Mr. Marmie, second by Mr. Houser, Motion passed 10-0

By: Mr. Rath, Mr. Barker, Ms. Bline, Mr. Labutis, Mr. Chute, Mr. Neely, Mr. Lang

23-76 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CONVEYANCE OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY NOW OWNED BY THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO TO NEWARK DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS AS ITS AGENT FOR INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL, DISTRIBUTION, AND RESEARCH

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

By: Mr. Rath, Mr. Barker, Ms. Bline, Mr. Labutis, Mr. Chute, Mr. Neely, Mr. Marmie

23-77 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO CONTRACT FOR THE OFF-SITE DISPOSAL AND BENEFICIAL REUSE OF LIME SLUDGE FROM NEWARK'S WATER TREATMENT PLANT

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

RESOLUTIONS ON FIRST READING

By: Mr. Marmie, Mr. Barker, Mr. Chute, Ms. Bline, Mr. Lang, Mr. Labutis

23-78 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 2024 FEDERAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS (CDBG), AS REQUIRED BY 24 CFR PART 91.220, FOR VARIOUS PROGRAMS RELATED TO HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

Held until 10-2-23

By: Mr. Marmie, Mr. Chute, Mr. Barker, Mr. Neely, Ms. Bline, Mr. Labutis

23-79 Exp APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (\$3,000.00 -Funds for Interpreting Services)(\$6,565.00 -Unspent Funds from ISP and JRIG Grants, appropriate needed for Law Enforcement Supplies) (\$74,100.00 -Amount was doubled when original budget was done)(\$32,000.00 -Added in contract additional sick leave conversion - increase in Civil Service Payments and missed in original budget (2024 pay in advance))(\$22,241.25 -Brought in more money than estimated) (\$7,712.50 -Return money to GF for advancement from 2022)(\$520,000.00 -Ohio EMA ARPA First Responders Retention Incentives) (\$161,570.00 -Raises and Ratification bonus for 2023 Non-Bargaining Employees) (\$3,427.00 -Raises and Ratification bonus for 2023 Non-Bargaining Employees) (\$10,347.00 -Raises and Ratification bonus for 2023 Non-Bargaining Employees) (\$9,623.00 -Raises and Ratification bonus for 2023 Non-Bargaining Employees)(\$11,313.00 -Raises and Ratification bonus for 2023 Non-Bargaining Employees) (\$4,668.00 -Raises and Ratification bonus for 2023 Non-Bargaining Employees) (\$14,081.00 -Raises and Ratification bonus for 2023 Non-Bargaining Employees) (\$7,709.00 -Raises and Ratification bonus for 2023 Non-Bargaining Employees) (\$124,779.00 -Raises and Ratification bonus for 2023 Chiefs & Deputy Chiefs) (\$58,179.00 -Raises and Ratification bonus for 2023 Management) (\$10800.00 -Raises and Ratification bonus for 2023 Management) (\$16,384.00 -Raises and Ratification bonus for 2023 Management) (\$49,896.00 -Raises and Ratification bonus for 2023 Management) (\$17,263.00 -Raises and Ratification bonus for 2023 Management)(\$5,662.00 -Raises and Ratification bonus for 2023 Management)(\$75,000.00 -Commitment for project/Terrace Gardens project) (\$2,366.25 -Ohio EMA Grant Award increased per Ohio Dept. of Public Safety) (\$130,000.00 -Heating and Cooling system NPD)

Motion to waive the 2 day reading rule by Mr. Marmie, Second by Mr. Lang, Motion passed 10-0

Motion to adopt by Mr. Marmie, second by Mr. Lang, Motion passed 10-0

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

23-80 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYIUNG THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR

Held until 10-2-23

By: Mr. Rath, Mr. Neely, Mr. Chute, Mr. Marmie, Mr. Barker, Ms. Bline, Mr. Lang, Mr. Labutis

23-81 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE FOR THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO, TO ENTER INTO A LEASE-PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH PARK NATIONAL BANK FOR THE LEASE-PURCHASE OF ONE (1) NON-TRANSPORT MEDIC UNITS FOR THE DIVISION OF FIRE.

Held until 10-2-23

By: Mr. Rath, Mr. Neely, Mr. Chute, Mr. Marmie, Ms. Bline, Mr. Lang, Mr. Labutis

23-82 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO NEGOTIATE AND ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITHOUT COMPETITIVE BIDDING FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A NEW BOILER FOR THE NEWARK POLICE DEPARTMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

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

Mr. Rath - This is an emergency because the boiler is in dire need of repair, we're waiving competitive bidding because we're dealing with one company that did the installation.

Motion passed 10-0

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

Linda Mossholder, 224 Green Meadow Dr. - I've heard a lot of comments tonight about the homeless and I agree that it is a problem. One of the things I would like to just comment on, all of the people who are without housing are putting trash out, they are not all using drugs. I have spent the last month, we put a 76 year old woman in a motel on August 19th, I have spent the last month trying to find her housing. I'd just like to share some of the things that I have found out that may be of interest to the city. We have tried everywhere I even go to the point where she is 76 let's go to the aging program. They can't help with housing, but they let me know there are at least 5 senior citizens who are currently living in their car or living in tents. I called Terrace Gardens which is a high rise that houses seniors, its' under renovation they are not currently taking any new applications. We went to BHP they only support people who need housing because of their mental illness. They have an extensive waiting list. We went to the Main Place, they only serve people with Medicaid, this woman has both Medicaid and Medicare, So they could not serve her. I went to Metro housing, they are still working on last year's waiting list, there are over 200 people on the waiting list. I know this woman needs subsidized housing, she gets \$606 in Social Security and \$238 in SSI. We cannot rent anything on that, so I know she needs subsidized housing. So, I started going places, every place I called I got an answering machine, I left a message, not one place returned my call. I finally went downtown because someone told me they had room in the Candlewick Commons. I pounded on the door because this was supposed to be their office hours, they handed me an application. This is the application , it is the same for every subsidized housing place, in fact this has to have a signature and a date on every page. So I asked when I finally did get to put in the application, pulled some strings to get that done, so I said all of your sheets are the same do they have to be signed and initialed every single page. Yes. We completed most of the application, when we took it they said you are missing 3 documents. I said what am I missing. She said verification of homelessness. I said I have a letter from Coalition for Care saying this person is staying at a motel and is homeless. Well we need you to fill out 3 more forms, I had to have Melissa from Coalition for Care sign the form again, then we have to return them. I called to day and said can I just drop off these 3 sheets of paper, she said no, you need to make another appointment. So,

that's what it's like when you are trying to search for housing. Just a couple of other things, this person lost everything, her birth certificate, her ID I can say we are slowly making progress getting those documents, she got her SNAP replacement card but we had to activate it. She has a bit of arthritis, we called to activate it, I had the card, you have to enter you 16 digit card number, she can't do that, she tried 3 times and I tried twice. Just a couple of things happening, the Salvation Army is no longer serving breakfast or lunch on Saturdays and the reason they have given is that the Homeless Outreach, and just a correction, not all of us live in Granville, I live in Newark, so, they expect us to fill that void. We are a volunteer operation, all of our food is donated, we do not have any funds. SO, that's going to be a burden on us, we served 199 people on Saturday again, not all of those people are unsheltered. I appreciate the suggestion that was made at the last Council meeting that people could put their trash in dumpsters. We are very fortunate that the Thrift Store that is next to the Outreach unlocks its dumpster every Saturday so that we can put our trash in there. I'm just a little confused, I may be mistaken, but I thought it was illegal to put trash in dumpsters on private property, that people could either be charges with a misdemeanor or trespassing, so I would just like some clarification on that, thank you.

Clarence Smith, 1203 Briar Hill Rd, Heath - To items that I said before, my garage is right next to Goodwill. They have tried to put a chain link fence around their dumpster, they get into it, they probably used a crowbar they stole from my garage. The NPD do patrol it, you see a lot of guys on bicycles with baskets attached to them, anybody with a backpack on a bicycle gets to do whatever they want. You see them all around town. The bad thing about the Goodwill is there is a daycare right beside it. So, there have been needles, beer, other paraphernalia found around my shop and Goodwill. So, what if a kid gets ahold of that and stabs themselves what if it's laced with fentanyl, what if it has heroine on it, the kid is going to overdose. So, they get free Narcan, but you have to pay for diabetic medicine. So, I don't see where the help is going. They take their trash from Goodwill and take it to our area and sort it out and leave it. At one point they had a bed, a nightstand and a lamp like it was their bedroom by my shop. I came in they were brushing their teeth on the end of the bed. I called the cops, it took them an hour and a half to get there and they were sitting on the bed still. I come back and they are still there. They are brazen and they are blatant, as the woman said, not all homeless are bad, not all are drug addicts. I go to Springhill Baptist Church, we have an outreach for homeless, I am recovering addict, not drug, alcohol, but we have other addictions that plague us all. So, I understand there is help, but it is so easy for them to get stuff handed to them that they don't have to get a place to stay and when they are not prosecuted for stealing for blatant urination in public, why would they stop? They get handed everything to them, why would they stop? Thank you.

Rochelle Volen-Smith, 237 Violet Ct. - In terms of the homeless this just breaks my heart because I am seeing a lot of stores cutting down on employees rather than building up and I see

a lot of people trying to have 2 jobs, including ones that are homeless and I see during this time period that this problem is going to get worse before it gets better and we need to recognize that. I don't think homeless people are being handed things on a silver platter. I agree there are a lot of really nice and very productive homeless people and it just really bothers me that we are preying on this population when they are down on their luck. Not all homeless are on drugs and not all of them steal, but they are trying to survive. My experience is most of them do not take anything for granted. Thank you.

Gary Babcock, 67 Philmont - A good friend of mine Mike Moore, bought 214 Hudson Avenue. Thank you and thanks to Colton Rine who was involved. They fixed it up, he put a ton of money in this house, it took him 90 days to get rid of 11 people in a 1 bedroom apartment. They cleaned up drug paraphernalia for the whole 3 months. If you go in that home now, he's got 3 quality families in that home, he doesn't rent the 5 garages out back to any Tom, Dick or Harry, if you don't rent the house, you don't rent the garage. So thank you, Beth, thank you Colton. Okay, heads up, winter is coming. Last year Columbus closed three warming centers, the reason being, they couldn't afford it. So, a do-gooder church from Newark, I know who it was, they advertised, we're running a bus to Newark, but there was no plan on returning anyone. So, just a heads up in case that happens this year, the warming centers are coming, if Columbus can't afford them, how can Newark. This Saturday, there is a really good doer church up on Linnville Road, Christian Life Center, they're going to do another cleanup. SO, once again, these do-gooder churches and the do-gooder non-profits can turn up and help and they can start on the bike path that runs from East Main Street to O'Bannon Avenue. The other day there was even a tent, you could see it from O'Bannon across the bike path. So, thank you.

MISCELLANEOUS

Tricia Moore, Law Director - I just want to thank Council for passing 23-40-B and I appreciate all of the consideration that was given in that. One thing I ask is keep calling the police. I know that doesn't give people a lot of comfort, but listening to everything I'm thinking crime, crime, crime. Thank you Mr. Brunner for calling the police and doing a criminal trespass on your property. I don't want you to think of prosecution of the homeless as necessarily hurting them because what it does is get them clean and get them hooked up with services. We're not going in front of the judge and saying just throw them in jail and throw away the key, that's not what we're saying. We're saying lets get them clean and see if we can get them enrolled in services. So, please keep calling the police. And don't just shoo people off for trespassing on your property, call the police and prosecute. Go Browns.

Mayor Hall - I would echo what Tricia said, at the end of the day, yes the police are busy, but if they don't get called on something they don't know it happened. You need to document it. There are homeless that are breaking the law and homeless that aren't breaking the law. If they are breaking the law we need to do what we need to do, but we don't know that if citizens don't let us know. We appreciate everyone coming in and sharing tonight. Mr. Brunner, Lite the Nite was a good show they had over 500 cars this year which was 100 up from last year. The day of Car show 2021 Mr. Matheny passed away, if everyone remembers the morning of the car

show. It went on that year and last year, they were a little behind this year and I talked with them at the end and they were happy, of course the weather was beautiful. Next year we talked about trying to expand it geographically, where to do that. Jim was always in here in about May of each year and we had good conversations with him, but it's a great event in downtown and appreciated and I think more people will be involved each year as we move forward. Echoes of the Past, Jeri thank you for being there. I think each of the presenters did a wonderful job and I think you learned more about your families or friends. I think Chance and her team did a good job, the cemetery looked wonderful. It was a beautiful night and I would thank the Historical Society because they've always done a great job. We move forward with memories of our past and we do that through buildings and communication and it a lot of ways and it's an important part of Newark, our history and I appreciate everyone who participate in that.

Mr. Barker - I'll keep this short for you. I just want to thank everyone for coming tonight, as always, we don't know what goes on unless you tell us or contact us throughout the weeks between these meetings. We're all available, our information is on the City website, so if you need us we're here for you. I can tell you that there is a group between Council and the Administration that has met twice regarding homelessness and how the police and property maintenance and the parks and everything can work together and I believe that group' going to continue meeting throughout the end of the year to see how we can help with the homeless issue and how we can effect positive change and not hinder anything. So, we are working on it, we hear you, we're just trying to stay, quite frankly, within the federal regulations of the law which are very tight on this.

Ms. Bline - I want to thank everyone for coming tonight. For some it was no small thing because they're scared of retaliation and in fact I've gotten phone calls and texts of some that didn't come because of fear of retaliation. So I appreciate you all, you're showing courage day in and day out caring for your neighborhoods. I've seen Mr. Brunner and people from other neighborhoods interact with escalated persons and literally talk them down, just because of the relationship they have with them. It's not a hateful relationship most of the time, they truly care for one another and want the best for everyone. I've learned a lot listening and all during the summer on Weiant we worked with residents, getting cameras and grateful for the police and the Sheriff's department we were able to get enough information and documentation for a large stolen goods bust and it was a wonderful thing, it helped at that time, but we can't quit. Those reports, calling the police and being willing to testify is a big deal and I want to thank you guys and as Ms. Crumrine said, I've been listening and writing down and there are so many moving parts. What we can do as Mr. Barker said, to augment because when something is so consistently reported there's an opportunity for reform somewhere. We won't quit. Thank you guys again for your courage.

Mr. Labutis - I want to thank everyone again for coming out. As Mr. Barker said a lot of things we aren't; aware of unless you tell us either when you're here or by contacting us. So, I thank you for being here this evening.

Mr. Lang - Thank you everybody for coming, I know some folks were here for the first time, we would welcome you to come back. We love hearing from everybody, there aren't decisions that get made immediately, but these are things that others have mentioned that are being worked on. So, these are all points that get considered and talked about as we think about rules that we

can change. So, we need to hear from you I implore you to come back, it was really nice to hear from a whole bunch of different people with really specific issues that I think really should be a fuel for our police, prosecution for the legislative body to take some action, so thank you very much for coming. I also wanted to thank the third graders over at Legend Elementary, all of the classes for having me once again to talk about City Council, we had a really fun time learning about our City Government about how it works, we did our traditional mock Council Meeting, where we once again decided that pizza, donuts and ice cream were the best thing to have in the cafeteria every Friday, had some really lively debate and used some Roberts Rules to keep things under control. This year was extra special, my daughter is in third grade there so she got to be there and play the part of Mr. Harris and be our Council President. We had a lot of fun, a really fun part of my job, I love doing it.

Mr. Marmie - I need to call a Finance Committee meeting for October 2nd. I'd like to thank everyone for coming out and not only do I hear you, but I have been fighting for you for the different things. Now, as Mr. Barker indicated we have to work within the law, our Law Director is very good at telling us what can and cannot be done, however, we still need to get better, but that comes with improving our law enforcement presence. We have to hire police officers in order to do that. We also have to enforce our current laws that we have on the books. The only way to do that as the Law Director has indicated is we need property owners to call first and then be willing to testify. That's the only way to do it and it's only those that are breaking the law just like any other citizen that breaks the law we want to try to deter further criminal activity and when we start to do this the word will get out and that's what our hope is. We want Newark to be what Mr. Brunner has indicated. We all want the same thing. We want our families to be able to live somewhere that they don't fear just walking outside their door. They don't fear things getting stolen off their back or front porch even. So, we all have a common goal, we're working towards it and I think you're going to see improvement. It's not going to come overnight though. It didn't happen overnight, this thing has grown over the years, we will correct it with time and we appreciate you coming in and sharing your stories, that does help us. Finally, I just want to thank everyone who was able to come out to the celebration this past Saturday for Eula, the owner of the Draft House, it was a 50 year celebration. Great crowd, just fun, everybody was just talking, mingling around, the Mayor gave a great Proclamation to a well deserved young lady, I'll car her because at her age she's still going. She had her family in, it was just a fabulous event. I want to thank the Mayor for all that he did, the radio station was there, there were food vendors and the draft House of Course and Elliott's, it was a community event and was a lot of fun and so I want to thank everybody who came out and supported that.

Mr. Rath - Being towards the end means everybody has already said what I wanted to say for the most part, I did hear somebody say that we are preying on the homeless, I'll add that to the list of silly things that have been said in Council. Mr. Puryear, you said it real well, as a fellow older man, don't confront and don't just observe, like everybody else has said we need to call the police and then we need to press charges and ideally we need to press charges. I know I'm looking at you and called you out by name, but I'm talking to everybody. So, everybody who is listening, we need to press charges. We need that to happen and just keep calling the police, I know they are busy, short numbered and takes them a while to get there. I wish we had another 50 officers on the streets, we don't yet, we're working on that, but =until that happens we need to work with what we've got. Call them every time you have that problem and press

charges. Mr. Lang, I think it's awesome you had your daughter play Council President. I hope you didn't commit child abuse and have her dress like our current Council President. That would be a shame, but that is a great thing that you do every year. Somebody wrote a very nasty note on my Council minutes here, not sure who that was, I'll talk about registering a formal complaint later.

President Harris - Do you want to share with the class?

Mr. Rath - It just says Go Browns. Since we have 16 minutes until the Browns play the Steelers, I'll say Go Steelers and call a Service Committee meeting for October 2nd.

Mr. Rine - First, I'll just say thank you all for coming out, you are heard. This issue has progressively become an issue, gradually more than suddenly. Just like Mr. Marmie said, gradually we're going to have to fix this issue. I feel like this summer, I don't know what's in the water, but I feel like I can't even drive down the street without having to slow down or stop. The bike trail is an issue, you can't even walk down it, even me, I got chased by a guy with a machete, so I called the Sheriff, you know I'm 28 and they're chasing me away. Go Browns.

Mr. Harris - I want to thank everybody for coming tonight, everyone up here does listen and we pay attention. Jill, is that your name? Tim will you talk to her for a few minutes after the meeting about her situation, I thought she had a lot of information and how the process works for getting the police more involved for her situation. He's the Safety Director and I think it's important. I want to congratulate Jeff Hotchkiss on his retirement he had something like 32 years with the City, he did a wonderful job. And of course, Go Browns and our next meeting will be October 2nd.

ADJOURNMENT- Motion to adjourn by Mr. Barker , Second by Mr. Labutis , passed by acclamation

Jeff Harris, President of Council