

## Warren, Ohio

### MINUTES

#### REGULAR MEETING WARREN CITY COUNCIL

March 25, 2009

- CALL TO ORDER** The regular meeting of Warren City Council was called to order by President of Council Robert A. Marchese in Warren City Council Chambers at 7:30 PM, 141 South St. SE, Warren, Ohio.
- INVOCATION/PLEDGE** The meeting opened with prayer lead by Fiore Dippolito, 1<sup>st</sup> Ward Councilman and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
- ROLL CALL** MEMBERS PRESENT: Dippolito, Novak, Barkley, Morn, Flask, Pugh, Hartman, Crouse, Rucker, Dean
- OFFICIALS PRESENT** Mayor O'Brien, Law Director Hicks, Treasurer Homlitas, Director Franklin
- DEPARTMENT HEADS** Chief Mandopoulos, Chief Nussle, Gary Cicero, Bob Pinti, Frank Tempesta, Tom Angelo, Bill Totten, Renee Cicero, Lisa Mazzochi, Mike Keys, Chris Stephenson, Tom Gaffney, Sal DiLiello  
ABSENT: Bob Davis
- MOTION-ACCEPT PREVIOUS MINUTES** Motion Dean, second Novak to accept the minutes of the last meeting but dispense with reading of the same. VIVA VOCE: Yeas; no nays. Motion passed.
- PRESIDENT MARCHESE: We welcome our many guests tonight to tonight's Council meeting.
- Mr. Flask on behalf of Council, I want to extend to you our sorrow for the loss of your great grandchild and I know I speak for all of us in telling you we feel your loss.
- MR. FLASK: Thank you Mr. President.

#### REPORTS

- MAYOR** MAYOR O'BRIEN: Thank you very much Mr. President, Members of City Council: Basically there is very limited report. Two very important items ready for Ward Council Members. Number one, April 7<sup>th</sup> at 11 o'clock at City Hall there will be bid openings for the street resurfacing, city street resurfacing. That will be April 7<sup>th</sup> at 11 o'clock in the morning at City Hall and also April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11 o'clock at City Hall bids will be opened for the Packard Museum. Bids will be opened for the Packard Museum addition and that will be 11 o'clock at City Hall. It's been some time in regards to the Packard Museum, it's been some time that that document has been down to Columbus and finally the appropriate signatures have taken place and bids will be opened April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11 o'clock. Thank you Mr. President.
- LAW** MR. HICKS: Thank you Mr. President. No report this evening.
- AUDITOR** MR. GRIFFING: Thank you Mr. President. I'd like to thank everyone that came to my presentation of the city finances last night and I'd like to let everyone know that I've made arrangements with our Data Processing people, the presentation is available on-line on the city's website, Warren.org. Thank you Mr. President.
- PRESIDENT MARCHESE: Thank you Mr. Griffing for a well prepared report last night.

3-25-09

**TREASURER**

MR. HOMLITAS: Thank you, Mr. President. No report.

**DIRECTOR**

MR. FRANKLIN: Thank you Mr. President. No report this evening.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

No reports.

PRESIDENT MARCHESE: Mr. Stephenson if you could, I know Mr. Crouse wanted to get some time together with you. If we could arrange that some time this evening that would be good.

**March 25, 2009**

**SUMMARY OF CORRESPONDENCE**

C-06-09  
3-18-09

Received from David Orlean, President; Renewal Development Associates:

A letter stating that Hampshire-Orlean, LLC or a related entity will be the managing member of a residential development located at the Hampshire House Apartments, 1244 5<sup>th</sup> St. SW, Warren, Ohio. This project will include the acquisition and rehabilitation of a 150-unit Section 8 and 236 apartment complex serving low-income families in the City of Warren.

If it is intended to submit a statement of disapproval or objection to the OHFA, Ohio Housing Finance Agency, a written statement signed by a majority of the voting members of the legislative body governing the jurisdiction is required to be forwarded to the Executive Director of the OHFA within 30 days of the receipt of this notice and received by the OHFA within 45 days of the date of this letter.

REF: All Council Members  
Law Department  
Mike Keys, Community Development  
Mayor's Office

C-07-09  
3-18-09

Received from Captain Tim Bowers, Police Dept., City of Warren:

Copy of a letter dated March 17, 2009 stating a Justice Assistance Grant is being applied for and one of the grant requirements is that the governing body be given notice of the grant for their review. Thirty days after you have received this notice Capt. Bowers can submit the application.

A copy of the letter, containing information pertaining to the grant will be given to Council Members in their packet to be distributed March 20, 2009.

REF: All Council Members

C-08-09  
3-24-09

Received from the Warren City Traffic Commission:

Notice that the following action was taken at a meeting held March 24, 2009: A motion to recommend approval of Draft 2871 to

designate Franklin SE between Main SW and Pine SE for two-way traffic eastbound and westbound.

REF: All Council Members

**THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS ON FILE IN THE CLERK OF COUNCIL OFFICE.**

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

FINANCE

MR. NOVAK: Thank you Mr. President. The Finance Committee met yesterday at 5 PM and began with the financial report and status of the City of Warren's revenue issue that we are addressing now and I will thank David for giving such a good presentation and getting not only Council Members, but the public and employees and those interested in getting that information out. And we also reviewed the agenda for today's meeting and there were no recommendations made for passage on any of those drafts that on this evening's agenda. Thank you Mr. President.

ENGINEERING,  
PLANNING &  
BUILDING

MRS. MORN: Thank you Mr. President. Just a reminder we're having the Engineering, Planning and Building meeting tomorrow at 4 PM. Everyone received a copy of the agenda would be the zoning.

WATER/WATER  
POLLUTION  
CONTROL

MR. CROUSE: Thank you Mr. President. The Water and Water Pollution Control Committee met last Thursday March 25<sup>th</sup> at the Water Pollution Control Building and toured some aging equipment and reviewed the new water billing cycles that I'll be getting some. Thank you Mr. President.

COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT

MRS. RUCKER: Thank you Mr. President. No report other than to remind everyone tomorrow at 5 PM the Community Development Committee will be hosting a meeting to discuss the creation of the business incubator. I urge anyone that's interested or existing businesses or interested in starting businesses to attend. What we want to talk about tomorrow is of course the creation of an incubator but we also wanted to identify people that may need some help now and we have the programs in place in our city and we're willing to connect those people with the help that they need. Thank you Mr. President.

**SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

EDUCATION

MR. BARKLEY: Thank you Mr. President. The Education Committee would like to recognize the presence of our very special friend, Senor' Klingeman is here tonight and we have not seen him for a while so we have not had the ability to extend to him to give us any updates that he might have on, I don't mean to put him on the spot, but I don't know if he brought anything for the good of the body regarding education or the schools. But I'd certainly like to give you the opportunity to give an update. Did you have anything?

PRESIDENT MARCHESE: By all means, Mr. Klingeman.

(Mr. Klingeman responds from the back of the room without using a microphone. He mentioned the Alumni Hall of Fame the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in May. Other remarks were not audible).

PRESIDENT MARCHESE: Thank you Mr. Klingeman. And I add that you left Trumbull Memorial today to come to the Council meeting. It's a marvelous achievement.

**PUBLIC SPEAKING 7:40 PM**

**LARRY DUEBER, 1747 Estabrook NW, Warren, Ohio:** I live at 1747 Estabrook on the northwest side of Warren and I see there was some positive news in the Tribune on the front page on Sunday which we don't often see on the neighborhood stabilization plan and the comprehensive plan, the strategic plan, it's sometimes known as. Both those plans we know are linked together

in a way although there are differences too. The neighborhood stabilization plan focuses mostly on housing where the comprehensive plan looks at many issues beyond housing, but they really are linked together. I really do want to commend Councilman Barkley particularly because this comprehensive plan that we've been working on for a year would not have been possible without his efforts. He steered it through Council and I do want to commend him for it.

Also commend Poggemeyer particularly Charlene Kerr and John Piper for their efforts. They have put countless hours in working first with all of us on the steering committee to develop a plan and then countless numbers of citizens in our community, department heads, city officials, Council Members, neighborhood groups, the whole city for the last year.

You can go on the website the auditor mentioned to find both the neighborhood stabilization plan outline there also the comprehensive plan and thirdly there's also a study that was done, a marketing study that Warren has, one in the present and one in the next ten years on that website. It's very interesting reading to me and everybody should be looking at that. I know not everybody supported us going ahead with this program. A lot of people said we had studies done in the past, plans done in the past, but not like this. Plans done in an earlier time and we've looked at them all basically were limited in scope. They looked at basically the downtown area and limited projects such as the river walk and the amphitheater project. This is looking at the entire City of Warren. Warren is more than just downtown Warren. It's eleven square miles of property and that's what this plan deals with. We have several meetings coming up. The steering committee will be meeting two more times in the next six weeks and there's going to be one final public meeting and all of the citizens of Warren will be invited to attend that meeting. I don't know where it's going to be or a date yet, probably mid to late May. We hope everybody turns out for it and we know we have to then give a final report to Council sometime this summer, probably either June or July.

But it's been a lot of work; a lot of effort but we know you guys have a difficult time, you've got a lot of things to do but the citizens of the town have a lot of things to do too. It's not just you people. We can't stand around with our hands in our pockets and expect things to get done automatically. We all have to work together; we have to pull together and that's the only way we're going to be able to do it. And people like the Poggemeyer people that have come in and done the things for us that they've done is something that's we are going to benefit from for a number of years. Thank you Mr. President.

**CHARLES H. BENTZ, 303 Washington NW, Warren, Ohio:** Good evening and thank you for your time.

CLERK: Mr. Bentz use your microphone please.

MR. BENTZ: I'm usually loud; I don't have that problem. My name is Charles Bentz. I'm representing the Historic Perkins Homestead Neighborhood Association and we are passing out a piece that we put together. Several of the members are with me this evening. There's an old saying 'when you're in the hole, stop digging'. Over the past three years our neighborhood association and many other neighborhood associations are working separately and jointly to assist all of you, as a body and as individuals, to reverse the past downward trends and revitalize the City of Warren. Recent studies and a presentation by our Lt. Gov. point to the neighborhood associations as agents of change. Our neighborhood organization is here this evening to inform you of our recent activities and to request various stimulus funds and other available funds for work in our neighborhood. We are adjacent to downtown Warren.

We are passing around a representative group of photographs from our neighborhood. A picture is worth a thousand words. Take a look at these and pass them down this way. We have now taken over a hundred photographs around the neighborhood district and also Perkins Park. Current and past activities this year has been: Household census; dumpster days, we've had two dumpster days. There's pictures of that where we put dumpsters around our neighborhood and pass out to each neighbor at his home to defend their things to dumpster day and it has been very successful. Block watches; we've helped

with the Woods House. We have an annual free neighborhood party and you see a couple pictures of that from last year. We had about 180 people attend that. Everything was free. We had a good time. We had a magician; we had orchestras, bands, music and everybody had a good time. Weekly cleanups; people walking every street in the neighborhood and we also do a riverfront and Perkins clean up. We meet monthly and our executive committee meets also every month.

Tonight we request funds for two immediate projects and further discussion about other projects. If we receive these funds, we will work diligently with city officials to complete the tasks. Also, for some of these projects, we will seek private sector funding. Our targeted projects include: Birrel Park and I'm not sure I spelled that correctly. It's on Harmon Street and is the place of the old central and there's some pictures of that park. We'd like to restore that park. We have requests in to the state preservation organization for that to become a historic site. Perkins Park and Riverfront; \$350,000 to \$500,000. Our firm is engaged as a fund raising firm. We're engaged in Michigan to raise 40 million dollars for a park (Buzzer goes off) I'm done.

PRESIDENT MARCHESE: Extend your remarks.

MR. BENTZ: Okay, thank you. We would like to recommend that we help you prepare a stimulus package for funding. We in the job commission we prepare, we did it all for them, for 5.8 million dollars for stimulus funding for the park that's before them now and I think we'll get most of that money.

Just in summary, we're part of the historic downtown. Our goal is a better quality of life in our neighborhoods and to become an economic development asset for attracting new business and vendors to downtown Warren. Teddy Roosevelt said and you know I always like to use quotes if you read my letters and things; 'Keep your eyes on the stars but your feet on the ground'. Our Historic Perkins Homestead Neighborhood Association has their feet on the ground. And we just wanted to tell everybody what we're doing and we'd like to work with you the Mayor, the Council and others to do some of these things. Thank you very much.

MR. BARKLEY: Thank you Mr. President. Thank you Mr. Bentz for presenting this to us this evening. What I'd like to do is, I know you have several ideas and this certainly plans directly in to this strategic planning process for the city. I'd like to ask you and your group representatives to come to a meeting of strategic planning that I'll call and we'll address this solely in that meeting so we can talk about how we can tie this in and see what we can get done because what you're doing is very commendable. It's right up our alley for revitalization and it fits well in to strategic planning. So make sure that if there's anything that's not in the planning process now that you are presenting that we get that blended in immediately. So I'll call a meeting on that. I'll look at the calendar tomorrow so we can get something on the board right away.

PRESIDENT MARCHESE: Thank you Mr. Barkley. I might add if we want, while we have the parties here if you want to briefly after the meeting then we can compare schedules and I'll be glad to play a part in that myself. Mr. Novak.

MR. NOVAK: Thank you Mr. President. I'd just like to if I could refer to Mr. Klingeman, if there's a possibility, Tom if you happen to see some of these pictures, some of the things that we need restored especially at the former Central School site that they made in to a park and down in Perkins Park. If there was a way somehow that we could work with the Board of Education when the demolition takes place at the East Junior facility; I would hope that we would be able to salvage some of the sandstone and the stone from that building. Because it would be very important that that would be used in the rebuilding of those walls and some of the other fixtures that are in our parks because as you know, you can't go to Loew's and obtain these type of materials. So possibly if we could start some conversation with that Tom, I, I'd appreciate it. Thank you Mr. President.

MR. KLINGEMAN: No promises but I'll be very happy to look in to it.

PRESIDENT MARCHESE: Thank you Mr. Klingeman. I think if you'd work also with Councilman Barkley's committee in terms of the school portion of this that would be good also.

**LEGISLATION FOR FIRST READING**

**DRAFT 2884  
MOTOROLA  
CONTRACT**

An ordinance for the purpose of authorizing the Mayor and the Director of Public Service and Safety to enter into a two (2) year contract(s) with Motorola, Inc. for the service and maintenance of the city's radio Equipment and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Novak requests the clerk to read the title on Draft 2884 and place it in first reading.

READ

Clerk reads same.

REF: Finance

**LEGISLATION FOR PASSAGE**

**DRAFT 2880  
2009 BUDGET  
RECERTIFICATION**

An ordinance for the purpose of repealing and reenacting various provisions of Warren City Ordinance No. 12159/08 for the purpose of modifying various appropriations from the city's general fund and special revenue funds for 2009 in light of the city auditor's recertification of 2009 revenue and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Novak requests the clerk to read the title on Draft 2880.

READ

Clerk reads same.

**MOTION-SUSPEND  
THREE READINGS**

Motion Novak, second Barkley to suspend the rule requiring three readings on Draft 2880.

ROLL CALL

YES: Dippolito, Novak, Barkley, Morn, Flask, Pugh, Hartman, Crouse, Rucker, Dean

NO: None.

MOTION PASSED

10 YES; 0 NO. Motion passed.

MOTION FOR PASSAGE

Motion Novak, second Dippolito to pass Draft 2880.

**REMARKS**

MR. FLASK: Thank you Mr. President. I'd just like my colleagues to know that having not been at that meeting yesterday and having full information, I will not be supporting this. Thank you Mr. President.

ROLL CALL

YES: Dippolito, Novak, Barkley, Morn, Pugh, Hartman, Crouse, Rucker, Dean

NO: Flask

PASSED  
ORD. 1217609

9 YES; 1 NO. Motion passed. Draft 2880 is now ORD. 12176/09.

**DRAFT 2881  
FISCAL OFFICER  
CERTIFICATION**

An ordinance for the purpose of authorizing the payment of specific orders or contracts upon receipt of certification of the fiscal officer of the sufficiency of funds for said expenditures and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Novak requests the clerk to read the title on Draft 2881.

READ

Clerk reads same.

3-25-09

MOTION-SUSPEND  
THREE READINGS Motion Novak, second Dippolito to suspend the rule requiring three readings on Draft 2881.

ROLL CALL YES: Dippolito, Novak, Barkley,  
Morn, Flask, Pugh, Hartman, Crouse, Rucker, Dean  
NO: None.

MOTION PASSED 10 YES; 0 NO. Motion passed.

MOTION FOR PASSAGE Motion Novak, second Dippolito to pass Draft 2881.

REMARKS

None.

PASSED 10 YES; 0 NO. Motion passed. Draft 2881 is now ORD. 12177/09.  
ORD. 12177/09

**DRAFT 2882  
APPROPRIATIONS** An ordinance for the purpose of appropriating from the unappropriated, unencumbered 2008 balances of certain city funds and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Novak requests the clerk to read the title on Draft 2882.

READ Clerk reads same.

MOTION-SUSPEND  
THREE READINGS Motion Novak, second Barkley to suspend the rule requiring three readings on Draft 2882.

ROLL CALL YES: Dippolito, Novak, Barkley, Morn, Flask,  
Pugh, Hartman, Crouse, Rucker, Dean  
NO: None.

MOTION PASSED 10 Yes; 0 No. Motion passed.

MOTION FOR PASSAGE Motion Novak, second Dippolito to pass Draft 2882.

REMARKS

None.

ROLL CALL YES: Dippolito, Novak, Barkley, Morn, Flask,  
Pugh, Hartman, Crouse, Rucker, Dean  
NO: None.

PASSED 10 Yes; 0 No. Motion passed. Draft 2882 is now ORD. 12178/09.  
ORD. 12178/09

**DRAFT 2883  
JAG GRANT** An ordinance for the purpose of authorizing the Mayor of the City of Warren to apply to the State of Ohio and to enter into an interlocal Agreement(s) for the purpose of acquiring grant monies from the '2009 Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program' for the city's police department and for the further purpose of obligating the City of Warren to implement the activities encompassed within said grant and to make proper expenditures and receive funds incidental to said grant and declaring an emergency.

Mrs. Hartman requests the clerk to read the title on Draft 2883.

READ Clerk reads same.

MOTION-SUSPEND  
THREE READINGS Motion Hartman, second Dean to suspend the rule requiring three readings on Draft 2883.

3-25-09

ROLL CALL YES: Dippolito, Novak, Barkley, Morn, Flask,  
Pugh, Hartman, Crouse, Rucker, Dean

NO: None.

MOTION PASSED 10 Yes; 0 No. Motion passed.

MOTION FOR PASSAGE Motion Hartman, second Dean to pass Draft 2883.

REMARKS

None.

ROLL CALL YES: Dippolito, Novak, Barkley, Morn, Flask,  
Pugh, Hartman, Crouse, Rucker, Dean

NO: None.

PASSED 10 Yes; 0 No. Motion passed. Draft 2883 is now ORD. 12179/09.  
ORD. 12179/09

**DRAFT 2885**  
**PASSENGER RAIL**  
**IMPROVEMENTS** A resolution urging ODOT and Amtrak to request 30million dollars  
from the federal stimulus for Cleveland-Youngstown-Pittsburgh rail  
capital improvements.

Mr. Barkley requests the clerk to read the title on Draft 2885.

READ Clerk reads same.

MOTION-SUSPEND Motion Barkley, second Dippolito to suspend the rule requiring three  
THREE READINGS readings on Draft 2885.

ROLL CALL YES: Dippolito, Novak, Barkley, Morn, Flask,  
Pugh, Hartman, Crouse, Rucker, Dean

NO: None.

MOTION PASSED 10 Yes; 0 No. Motion passed.

MOTION FOR PASSAGE Motion Barkley, second Novak to pass Draft 2885.

REMARKS

None.

ROLL CALL YES: Dippolito, Novak, Barkley, Morn, Flask,  
Pugh, Hartman, Crouse, Rucker, Dean

NO: None.

PASSED 10 Yes; 0 No. Motion passed. Draft 2885 is now RES. 4417/09.  
RES. 4417/09

SECOND READING

**DRAFT 2878**  
**WATCHGUARD VIDEO**  
**CONTRACT** An ordinance for the purpose of authorizing the Director of Public  
Service and Safety to enter into contract(s) with Watchguard Video  
for the purchase and installation of eight DV-1 Digital In-Car Video  
Systems for use in the city's police department and declaring an  
emergency.

Mrs. Hartman requests the clerk to read the title on Draft 2878.

READ Clerk reads same.

MOTION-SUSPEND Motion Hartman, second Dean to suspend the rule requiring three  
THREE READINGS readings on Draft 2878.

3-25-09

ROLL CALL YES: Dippolito, Novak, Barkley, Morn, Flask,  
Pugh, Hartman, Crouse, Rucker, Dean

NO: None.

MOTION PASSED 10 Yes; 0 No. Motion passed.

MOTION FOR PASSAGE Motion Hartman, second Dean to pass Draft 2878.

REMARKS

None.

ROLL CALL YES: Dippolito, Novak, Barkley, Morn, Flask,  
Pugh, Hartman, Crouse, Rucker, Dean

NO: None.

PASSED 10 Yes; 0 No. Motion passed. Draft 2878 is now ORD. 12180/09.  
ORD. 12180/09

**DRAFT 2873  
REDUCE PACKARD  
MUSIC HALL  
APPROPRIATION**

An ordinance for the purpose of repealing various provisions of, and enacting various provisions to Warren City Ordinance No. 12159/08 for the purpose of reducing the appropriation from the city's general fund for the Packard Music Hall for 2009 by one hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000.00) and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Crouse requests the clerk to read the title on Draft 2873 and place it in second reading.

READ Clerk reads same.

**DRAFT 2874  
RECOMMENDATIONS  
TO TRUSTEES OF  
PACKARD MUSIC HALL**

A resolution for the purpose of making particular recommendations to the Board of Trustees of the Packard Music Hall for the purpose of making the Packard Music Hall more successful.

Mr. Crouse requests the clerk to read the title on Draft 2874 and place it in second reading.

READ Clerk reads same.

**MISCELLANEOUS 8:00 PM**

MR. DIPPOLITO

Thank you Mr. President. I wish to congratulate the auditor on his presentation yesterday and it reminds me ten years ago at this same time of year, 1999 to be exact right before the primaries too we had a similar kind of presentation. It, everything was well, then in the early afternoon and things were very well as far as the city nothing major. The same year we also had that big implosion, down the stacks on Summit Street there the power plant. At the other half of the end of the year November, 50 plus people were laid off.

Now to move on to more pressing matters or shall we say happier situations in the 1<sup>st</sup> Ward: a home in my neighborhood has been kind of rundown and since a lot of transit people in and out. In any event a young man purchase that home not too long ago and before you know it it's been updated and moved and a new owner has been moved in today (inaudible) down near Burbank Park. You know where that is down Olean and so forth in that area. There's been a home there for years, it's like the (inaudible) it was so nasty. I think, I went with a member of the Health Department about three years ago; we took pictures and so forth and just went by there the other day and you know what they're doing. It's been update, repaired; there's a dumpster there and (inaudible) All I can say is that maybe there's a message coming out here that this school being located over in that 1<sup>st</sup> Ward is Tod Avenue in that neighborhood down there then maybe some people are thinking that maybe it's time it's going to be better here and so they're

improving these homes and moving on. So I think it's great that's happened over there and pleased to inform you as such. Thank you Mr. President.

MR. NOVAK

Thank you Mr. President. Again I'd like to thank Mr. Griffing for his presentation yesterday. This generated a very large amount of discussion especially with the public. I received a considerable amount of phone calls today from folks that are retired, laid-off, working one week, laid-off one week some work at Kraftmaid, Concord, Thomas Steel, Delphi, GE and just to quote the one lady that called me from GE and she said after 32 years I'm working one week; laid off one week and I don't know what my future is. And she asked me to quote this on the floor tonight no one likes to take concessions but she hopes that the city workers here step up to the plate and do their duty. Thank you Mr. President.

MR. BARKLEY

Thank you Mr. President. I think it's public knowledge now that I'm not seeking re-election to Council which is in itself news, but I just wanted to take an opportunity because I've received so many kind words and since I've made a decision and so support from people. A lot of people in this room actually have shown support and understand it from my need to make that decision and I just want to publicly thank everyone for that. I mean that means a lot to me to hear that. My desire to service is absolutely there and in fact my priorities in life have changed and sometimes you have to recognize they need to change with those priorities and focus on other things and so that's exactly what's happened to me. And I'm at peace with my decision and you know my family's the most important thing to me and I'm going to put some focus back on that. It doesn't mean there won't be another time in my life to come back and work with you all and do something grand, but the real point of the matter is that I am a Councilman for nine more months, I haven't resigned so that time and I've still got the same priorities today that I had three years and three months ago and I plan on working out the rest of this term as hard as I came in to the first one and half of it. So I just want everyone to know that you know that people are talking to me like you know the way you talk to a guy dieing from cancer lately. I just want everyone to know that it's not, it's not, it's not all bad. It's really good and I'm still here and I'll be here till the end of the year so I just want to thank everyone for that show of support. It means a lot to me. It really does so, but I'm not gone yet. Thank you Mr. President.

MRS. MORN

Thank you Mr. President. It was a really great meeting at the Commissioner's office in regards to the clean-up and the grass cutting. Thanks to all the Council people who showed up; it was great. We had a lot of representation from neighborhood groups and from citizens. Marsico and Firster gave presentations as to what their jobs were all about and they answered quite a few questions. The commissioner explained it on how the program works. For the first 30 days right now we're doing clean-ups cause the grass isn't growing and then after that we start in to the grass cutting. The important thing to remember is you've got to get these locations in to the Health Department. You've got to call it in to Mr. Pinti otherwise we can't come out and get it.

On a 4<sup>th</sup> Ward note, I had a resident call me about an abandoned property on Vine Street and it's quite a mess but the residents there are going to step up and they're going to clean it up and they're also going to clean up the bike trail that runs along the end of Vine. We just have to wait to coordinate it with Mr. Pinti and get a roll-off out there and get it cleaned up. Thank you Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MARCHESE: Thank you Miss Morn and good work with that project.

MR. PUGH

Thank you Mr. President. I'd like to take this opportunity to invite everyone to the pancake fund raiser for the community volunteer, I'm sorry, community concerned citizens. It's going to be Saturday, April the 10<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 until 11:30 at New Freedom Baptist Church. I have

tickets, Mrs. Franklin has tickets, they're six dollars. I hope you can all attend. This is their major, I should say, 'our' major fundraiser. Thank you Mr. President.

MRS. HARTMAN

Thank you. We have heard a lot about the stimulus program and it, it's not at this point very favorable for our Fire Department. So I would like to thank Jeff Younkins for traveling to Washington DC. He's actually speaking to the representatives down there trying to get some movement in changing that piece to allow it to be more user friendly to areas like us who have firemen who are already laid off. The way it's written right now you cannot call back people, you can only hire new. So Jeff's been down there and he is working on our behalf (inaudible) in that area. Captain Bowers is working on stimulus grants for our Fire Department and I know he's getting input from the Chief and hopefully the grant money will be in place in time to look over that to make sure that it is written as well as we can possibly have it written to do the best we can do to bring back safety and to, once again I'd like to thank him also for his part in that.

I'd like to also ask Mr. Klingeman to give our congratulations to the Harding basketball team. It's quite a feat to be going to the state tournament and I wish them best of luck. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MARCHESE: We have I think student visitors in the back, do we? Welcome, where are you from? Girard. Very good, very good. Welcome.

Mr. Barkley I just want to say on behalf of all of us, you said it best, you're going to be here nine more months and if there's somebody I know that doesn't give us, it's you. You know Psychologist Baitey once said the strongest guy is the guy that takes care of his family. That's probably what's wrong with all of us in this work is the family that suffers the most and I can't think of anything better than somebody that's strong enough to know that in your (inaudible) are more important right now than there's things other than the City of Warren and I know we live it every day, but that's a goal that's a strong personality trait of yours and I know I speak for all of us when I say we admire that. You break the mold of a lot of people and that's something to be proud of.

### **ADJOURNMENT 8:10 PM**

**MOTION FOR  
ADJOURNMENT**

Motion Dean, second Novak to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 PM.  
VIVA VOCE: Yeas; no nays.

dkn

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Robert A. Marchese, President of Council

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Darla K. Neugebauer, Clerk of Council, C.M.C.

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